



Leonard L. Hartley Esq.

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1865







Report

ON

THE RECORDS

OF THE

BOROUGH OF COLCHESTER,

1865.

* 2500.58

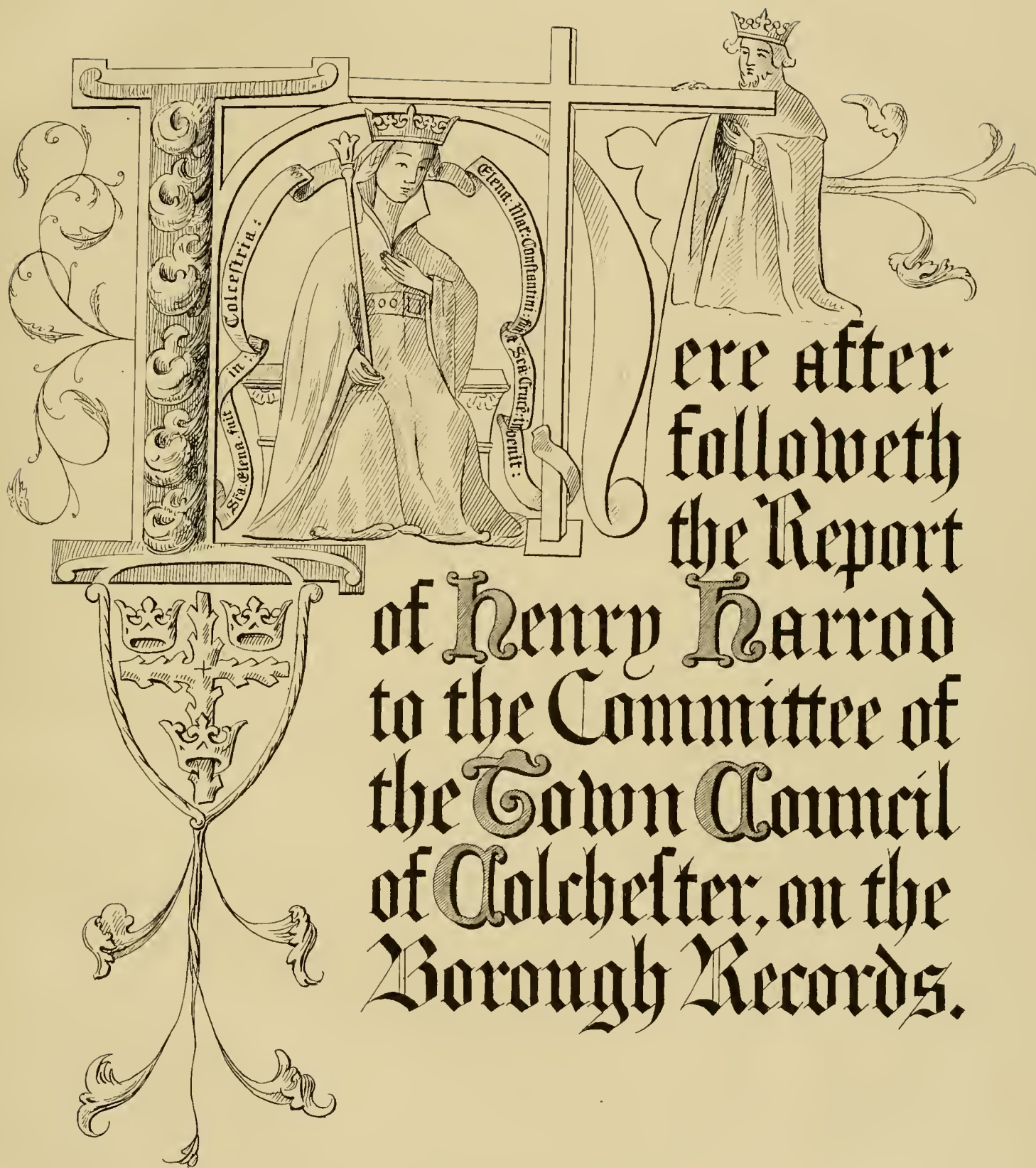
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ere after
followeth
the Report
of Henry Harrod
to the Committee of
the Town Council
of Colchester, on the
Borough Records.

Colchester Town Council.

AT A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL, HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, ON MONDAY, THE 27TH OF FEBRUARY, 1865, THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY AGREED TO:—

“ That MR. HENRY HARROD be employed to Arrange and Index the Corporation Records, and that MR. ALDERMAN EDWARD WILLIAMS and MR. COUNCILLOR JOHN BAWTREE HARVEY be requested to superintend such arrangement.”

AT A MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL, HELD ON THE 30TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 1865, THE RECORD COMMITTEE REPORTED THAT THE BOROUGH RECORDS HAD BEEN ARRANGED IN THE NEW RECORD ROOM AT THE CASTLE; AND PLACED BEFORE THE COUNCIL THE REPERTORY, THE CALENDAR OF COURT ROLLS, LIST OF BAILIFFS, AND GENERAL REPORT PREPARED BY MR. HARROD, AND IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED—

“ That the Repertory, Calendar, and Report be printed, and Copies presented to each Member of the Council; and that such number of Copies be printed for sale as the Committee may determine, and that a Copy be placed in the Record Room, and Copies sent to the British Museum and the principal Libraries in England.”

They are not "got up" so expensively as usual, the only one on which any outlay for illumination has been made is the Charter of Henry V. It is singular that Morant describes the Initial Letter, which is very handsome, and mentions the figure of St. Helena and the Cross; but entirely omits all mention of Constantine, who stands on her left hand holding the left limb of the Cross.

II.—Of the Deeds and Writings.

These are not very numerous or very important. Foremost among them is the Grant by Edward VI. of the Chantry Lands in consideration of £284. 5s.

A Deed of 16th Charles I. is preserved, simply because its description assists in determining the Borough Boundary.

The Deeds relating to the Fishery are the Leases in the latter part of the seventeenth, and the early part of the last, century, and the arrangements with the Oyster Dredgers by the Lessees.

There are a number of Papers and Letters relating to the Severalls Estate and the encroachments there in 1756, Quietuses for the Fee Farm Rent, and an original Perambulation in 1801, made under the careful supervision of Mr. Strutt.

III.—Of the Court Rolls.

These Rolls begin in the reign of Edward II., of whose reign but two remain, and it is not until the 3rd and 4th Edward III. that they go on with any regularity.

This, however, was not the beginning of them, as we have evidence of the existence of much earlier ones now lost. In the Red Parchment Book (Oath Book as it is now called) a Perambulation at fo. 1 is stated to have been taken from the Rolls of the 6th Edward I., and in the "Red Paper Book" is an extract made early in the reign of Richard II. from those of the 56th year of Henry III.

Morant, I am sorry to say, must have lost many of them; he seems to have conceived that having once embalmed the information he thought of moment in his pages, they could be of no further use to the Town, so he actually deposited some in his Parish Chest as affording useful information to his parishioners about Parish Lands. These were, however, restored in 1821, but he speaks, at p. 123, of "a small roll of 56th Henry III., and one of Richard I.," or "John," as "penes me." These are lost.

The main part of these Rolls is occupied by entries of actions, complaints, pleadings, essoigns, judgments, and other proceedings of the Borough Courts. In the earliest Rolls some of the Corporation Ordinances and proceedings are entered, but are not continued very long.

The taste for litigation in early days seems to have been very great, but what may be called its Golden Age was the early years of Richard II., the number of

Rolls then ran up to 50 and 60 in every year, closely written in a small but not very neat hand on both sides the membrane ; in the 11th and 12th year the number rose to 71. Subsequently, in the time of James, the number of Rolls sometimes reach from 50 to 60, but the writing is very much larger and wider, and blank spaces frequent.

In the reign of Henry VIII. the entries of the formal parts of actions in a great measure ceased, and were entered only in the Paper Minute Books of the Courts, the total of fines and fees, and the special pleas, alone appearing on the Rolls, with occasionally the entry, pretty nearly in full, of any important case.

In the few Rolls of Edward II. the Courts are on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, as well as on the Monday—sometimes at different hours on the same day—the Monday Court being alone entitled the “ Hundred Court ;” the cases on other days being entitled “ Pleas of Colchester on,” &c. It is not until the Rolls of the 6th Henry IV. that the Thursday seems to be expressly set apart as a Foreign Court day.

In such a mass of minute litigation it would be as impossible to extract much of general interest as from County Court proceedings in the present day. There is (as usual) in the earlier Rolls, a curious collection of strange surnames, some easily traced to the occupation of the bearer—as Simon Barbitonsour, John le Lambeherde, Henry le Wodehewer, John le Ventoser, Gervaise Cissor. Others, from their place of birth or residence, as Richard de Berholt, Simon de Doniland, Adam Attewelle, John de Tendring. Some are only sons of a father without surname, as Ralph, son of the Priest ; Warin, son of William ; Matthew, son of Robert ; which, subsequently, came to be families of Priestsson, Williamson and Robertson. There are others of which the origin may be guessed, and some of which it is impossible to hazard a suggestion. The “ Opethewalls ” appear to have held a place where the Town Wall was broken down. Brun Robin was Robert with the brown hair. Thomas Godfelawe, or Goodfellow, was, possibly, what the name implies ; but it is more difficult to deal with John Maydengod, William Pentecost, Richard Pegon, and Simon le “ Eskermisur.”

Many cases might be selected of interest to the general reader. I give an abstract of one, not because it is more interesting than others I could have taken, but because it shows how stoutly the Burghs of England in the middle ages maintained their rights against invasion by, or in the name of, the King.

At a Court held in the Feast of St. Dunstan, in the 5th year of Henry IV., in a case of William Cotell and Katherine his wife against Thomas Seynt John and Cecilia his wife for a Trespass, the defendants did not appear, and the Serjeants stated they had no goods within the Burgh Liberties they could attach, whereupon it was ordered to attach their bodies and bring them before the Court on the

Thursday following to answer the plaint. On which day the Serjeants produced them, and William and Katherine complained that Cecilia, on the tenth of August, in the nineteenth year of King Richard II., broke into and entered their Close and Houses in the Parish of St. James, in the East Ward, and committed other offences to the damage of the said William of £40, and against the peace, &c. In reply the Defendant said that no trespass was committed at the time named, for at that time she was the wife of one William Sutton, now dead. And the Wednesday after St. Petronilla is fixed for a further hearing of the case. On which day it appeared to the Bailiffs that Defendants had offered nothing in excuse for the trespass, and a Jury was ordered to be summoned for the following Wednesday to assess the damages. The Jury was empanelled on that day, but before anything was done the Defendant sought to stay further proceeding by producing the following document :—

“ Henry by the Grace of God, &c., being a ‘ protection ’ for the said Thomas, who is therein stated to be ‘ in our service ’ under Thomas Lord Berkeley, ‘ our Admiral in the West and South, and there remaining in the same service concerning the safe keeping of the Sea,’ and requiring all Bailiffs, Justices, &c., to protect the men, lands, rents, and all other possessions of the same Thomas. Dated the 3rd of June in the 5th year.”

But the Bailiffs demurred to admit the same because there was no Writ to them, and because it stated that he was in the service of the Admiral on the Sea, whereas instead of being so there he was before them in their Court. Therefore they proceeded to enquire about the damage, which the Jury assessed at £20, and the Defendants were committed to Gaol until, &c.

Another case was also heard between the same parties for a trespass on the same premises by both Defendants on the 12th of October then last. To which the Defendants pleaded that John, the brother of the Defendant Cecilia, whose heir she was, died seized of the premises, and on his death one Geoffrey Cokefield entered and enfeoffed one John Skyrwhyte, whose estate in the premises the Plaintiffs now have. And that thereupon Defendants, to enforce their legal rights, entered, and were ejected by the Plaintiffs, and they then prosecuted an assize of novel disseizin before William Hankford and other Justices. Original Writ dated 16th October, in the 5th year, which was not continued, but as another assize was depending before the same Justices, the present action could not be brought.

To which the Plaintiffs replied that Cecilia had no such brother, and that no Assize of Novel Disseisin was pending. A day was named for a Jury, when one was empanelled, and the said Thomas sought to stop it by the King’s Letter of Protection as before. But this was again over-ruled for the reasons before given. The Jury assessed the damages at £20, and the Defendants were committed to Gaol, there to remain until, &c.

A Court, which for a time obtained some popularity for the speedy justice it professed to administer, was the Curia Regis Pedis Pulverizatis, or Pie Poudré Court, held during fairs and markets. The proceedings of these Courts are rarely recorded, and when they are the record is usually cut as short as possible. But the first recorded Court on these Rolls (whether on account of the novelty or for what other reason does not appear), in the 21st and 22nd Rolls of Henry VI., has three cases stated with great minuteness, and show the character of the proceedings so well, that I have made a copious abstract of one of them. The curious way in which the time occupied by the proceedings is curtailed by fixing different hours of the same day for the various stages of the action, which would have otherwise been taken at successive Court days, is very amusing. The proceedings themselves are not shortened a bit, only the time intervening between each step, and the conclusion of the case leaving the Plaintiff open to a renewal of the contest on Defendant pleading within a year and a day, must have been rather unsatisfactory.

“ Pie Powder Court held at the Moot Hall before the Bailiffs according to the custom of the Town *beyond memory* (this is inconsistent with the notion of novelty) and by reason of the Market held all day on Friday before the feast of the Invention of the Holy Cross at the 8th hour in the forenoon of that day.”

“ To this Court came Thomas Smith, who complained of Cristina Van Bondelyn being indebted to him £60.10.10, and he found pledges to prosecute his suit, and the Serjeant was ordered to summon her before the Court at the *ninth* hour.”

“ At the ninth hour Plaintiff again appeared, the Serjeant certified service of summons but Defendant did not appear. Precept therefore to Serjeant to attach her goods and chattels so that she should appear at the *tenth* hour.”

“ Again Plaintiff appeared at the tenth hour but no Defendant, and the Serjeant certified that he had attached twenty-three woollen cloths belonging to her. An order made to record a first default and summon her for the *eleventh* hour.”

“ Again at the eleventh hour was Plaintiff present but no Defendant. A *second default* was recorded, and a summons issued for her appearance at the first hour after noon.”

“ At that hour Plaintiff again presented himself but the Defendant still contumacious, and a *third default* recorded. Plaintiff was then permitted to prove his debt and appraisers were sworn to inspect and value the goods seized. Judgment recorded for Plaintiff for his debt and 26s. 8d. damages.”

“ At the fourth hour p.m. the appraisers returned the value of the goods at £61..4, which were delivered to Plaintiff, he finding pledges to answer Defendant in the said Court *should she plead in a year and a day*” (that is on the Fair Day in the following year).

Of the other matters mentioned in the Rolls the Calendar will give full information ; it may not be amiss, however, to refer to a few of the more interesting in this Report.

In the time of Edward II. the business of the Town appears to have been carried on in the Hundred Court, and although the Bailiffs took the lead they were assisted

by a number of the chief men of the Town. The style of the Corporation at that time was "the Community of the Burgesses of the Town of Colchester."

All the proceedings were entered indiscriminately—as they occurred so were they recorded. Among entries of Plaints for debts and trespasses we come upon proceedings against Tavern Keepers for mixing old and new wine (4 and 5 Edward II., Roll 3), a proceeding against a Butcher for selling bad meat.

"Robert Barefot attached to answer concerning putrid meat exposed by him for sale in Colchester Market, came before the Bailiffs and Burgesses associated with them and said that the meat was good and of sweet savour, and fit to buy and sell."

"Inquest of Butchers and other trustworthy persons thereon say that it is putrid and tainted, and not fit for men's use. Therefore forfeited and Robert amerced 12^d." [He must have been Robert Barefaced.] "And found pledges Adam Scot and Ralph Raven."

"Henry of Gyppeswic taken and detained in the prison of Colchester for stealing a piece of iron value fivepence; as it was of no greater value, adjudged to the Pillory." (4 and 5 Edward II., Roll 4.)

The full Assembly of the Burgesses not only determined such matters as the opposition to the claim of the Bishop of London and his tenants of Chelmsford to be free of Toll (the opposition to which was that he could only claim exemption for things belonging or arising to the use of Saint Paul's Church, London, and not otherwise), but also in a case where Richard Musse and his companions had been taken in Head Street as thieves, they "ordained" that neither with or without Writ should they be re-pledged, but kept safe and secure in prison till the next Gaol delivery. In the records of both these cases the names of the Burgesses concerned are given. I add them here, as showing the names of those composing the Corporation at the time.

To the first, were Robert Olyver, Elyas son of John, John de Ford, Ralph Ode, William Clerk, Andrew Clerk, William Plumsted, Matthew le Ver Noreys Ralph Sefar, Richard atte Gate, William de Sartrin, John de Tendring, William Gray, Richard de Upton, Richard Tincter, Adam de Adam de Cogg, Henry Denny, Nicholas le Gros, William Persale, William Potte, Alexander Tabenar, J. Tincter, and Roger Tincter.

To the other, the same parties with the addition "and others."

The Grants and Surrenders of Land by and to the Corporation appear to relate entirely to small narrow pieces of Waste Land by the Streets, Ways and Town Wall—portions of the Town Ditch, Stalls in the Market, and curtilages of the Moot Hall. A small annual rent was generally reserved, and on transfer to other parties they were surrendered to the Bailiffs, who delivered seisin by the rod to the purchaser, he paying a fine and rent and service, exactly as in Copyhold transfers in the present day.

In the 3rd and 4th year of Richard II. a sufficient piece of land is granted to place three stulps, which are Anglicised "spores" for "spars" or "posts," to support a certain Vine opposite the House of one Clement Dyer, in North Street. An entry affording an instance of the culture of a Vine in the front of a House, and also of the use of a rather rare word "stulps."

Land is granted, too, along Maydenburgh Street on the one side and the Castle Ditch on the other, accurately marking the old Boundary between the Corporate and the King's Land. From them it appears, also, that the West gate of the Castle stood at the head of the narrow way which still leads up to the south side of the Castle.

The Postern Gates on the North and South sides of the town are called North Sherd and South Sherd ; the North Gate is also sometimes the Rye or Rhee Gate, and the South referred to as "in Chero." East Gate and Head Gate are Est Gate and Heved Gate, and there is a North Gate beside the Postern I have just referred to. The Balkerne Gate, in earlier times the main entrance to the Town, appears entirely disused. In a case in the Red Paper Book concerning the burning a heretic in the 7th of Henry VI., it is called "Colkynes Castle," a name which appears to me decidedly of Saxon origin. King Coel's Pump, and King Coel's Palace, may very well be of mediæval origin—not so the "Colkyns," which represents a genuine Saxon epithet. In legal proceedings it (or the adjoining land, perhaps,) was at a much earlier period alluded to as the Balkern. In the Gaol Delivery Roll for the 9th year of Edward I., John Boneton "detained in prison for "the death of Richard Mareschall at Balkerne says he is not guilty and puts "himself on the Country who say he is not guilty, therefore acquitted."

Before the commencement of these Rolls the town proper had extended in several directions far beyond the Roman Walls. East Street had travelled down the Hill and crossed the River and gained the Rising Ground on the other side "Stow Risland."

The Hythe was extending, and in Edward III.'s time much appears to have been going on in building and improvements at "New Hythe."

The Bailiffs and Corporation appear to have dealt with the Waste Lands and Common grounds exactly in the same way as Lords of a Manor—the grants are all made in Court and seisin delivered "by the rod" on payment of a fine, and rents and services reserved. On a change of the holders of these Lands, they were surrendered "into the hands of the Bailiffs to the use" of the purchaser. After Henry VIII.'s time no Grants by the Corporation are noted on the Rolls.

In the earliest Rolls the Presentments of the Leet are recorded three times in the year, after Michaelmas, after Hilary, and after Hokeday. Subsequently they were recorded on the first two or three Rolls, but in Elizabeth's time they were kept in the two or three last Rolls of the year, and have in consequence, in many instances, been lost.

The value of these Presentments, as illustrating the History of the Town, the manners of the times, and a variety of subjects of local and general interest, is very great.

With such a mass of entries it would require a considerable time, much local knowledge, and a good deal of perseverance, to select, extract, and arrange those of interest, but it could be done and would repay the trouble.

My extracts are selected very much at random, still I think they will bear out my assertion.

“ They say ” (the Leet Jury) “ that Robert called Brown Robyn drew blood of Peter Smith ;” fined, &c. 4 and 5 Edward II.

“ Hugh de Stowe raised two stulps (or ‘ posts,’ see page 7) under his vine opposite his tenement ‘ in chero ’ in the Chair or Scherd.” Ditto.

“ Edward atte Pette dug gravel outside East Gate to the damage of the Stone Wall of the Town.”

“ Adam Plantyng detained 18^d. rent of a certain Croft of Land called Mabils Pyghtle pertaining to the Community, and had doue so for fifteen years past. Ordered to be distrained.”

(The Rolls of 18 and 19 Henry VIII. record a Conveyance which describes the position of Mabills Pightle, which was next Drury’s Field, in St. Mary’s Parish, and for that reason Morant coolly took those Rolls from the Borough Record Room and deposited them in the Church Chest of St. Mary’s, whence they were taken in 1821 and restored to the Corporation.)

The Jury presented that John, son of Gerald the Chanter, and Simon le Quilter, in the night of St. John the Evangelist’s day last, entered the enclosed Court of the Prison of the Community beyond the Walls where prisoners were detained against the Peace, &c. (I can find no notice of this Prison in Morant or elsewhere.)

“ John Parsonn stopped up a Lane leading from Colchester to *Colebaynes* land ; fined 6^d.”

“ John Unwin has no free tenement therefore he has no right to common on the Common Pasture.”

“ They say the Arable Land of Nicholas le Gros beyond the river to the North is common pasture from the Gules of August to the feast of the Purification unless sown—and has been so time out of mind—in the time of Robert le Gros his grandfather and of Simon his father. And now the said Nicholas has inclosed and separated it and sold the same to Walter de Elmedowe, and the Commonalty are not able to common on it as they were wont. Therefore Nicholas in mercy and the land seised, &c.”

“ John Parson inclosed a Croft next Colbaynes land in which Commoners were wont to common in open time. Amerced and ordered to open it.”

“ They ‘ conceded and ordained ’ that all measures whatsoever, gallons, pottles and quarts, bushels, half-bushels, and all other smaller measures with which any merchandise is sold, or toll taken, should be sealed with the Common Seal. The like as to other weights and measures. Two men of every ward to be sworn to superintend same.”

They present that all the Vintners broke the Assize selling with measures not sealed, namely, “Choppes.” 5th Edward II.

The Brethren of Magdalen dug a Pond *next the Gallows* by which the King’s way is injured ; fined 4^d.

Hue and cry raised by a man on “rope Monday.” 5th Edward II.

Henry Oskyn, Butcher, killed a Bull 40^d. before he had been baited with dogs at the place ordained at the Berestake, and sold the flesh of the said Bull, although it is ordered by the Community that, &c., unless, &c. (Ten other Butchers fined—two 12^d. each the rest 6^d. for the like.)

John King for building a house on the wall near the South Gate—amerced. 3rd and 4th Edward III.

William atte Pette for digging sand in the King’s Way by the Castle Ditch—near S^t. Helen’s Chapel. 10th and 11th Edward III.

They present that John Taverner Chaplain holds a *garden* called the Balkerne, in which he is wont to stop the water course coming from Chyldewell. 41 Edward III., Roll 12.

In this case the Gate cannot be referred to, but the Land about it.

In the 15th Richard II. the Hilary Leet presented—

“Geoffrey Abbot of S^t. John’s, Colchester, for that he with twelve horsemen armed with haubergions and bows and arrows and other arms rode from the Abbey on the Saturday after the feast of S^t. Laurence to the Balkerne Fields opposite Colkyngs Castle, to the terror of the people and to the disturbance of the Public Peace, and so forth.”

We have here, again, the Gate called Colkyngs Castle, and the Fields the Balkerne Fields (query whether the name did not pertain to the fields, and had nothing at all to do with the Gate ?)

Then follows what appears to be a rough attempt to settle a legal question by force.

“William Flete, Clerk, and John Olyver, Clerk, of the Parish of Saiut Giles, on the Saturday in the feast of S^t. Martin in the same year, entered the window of the Hall of the Hospital of S^t. Mary Magdalen and broke the lock of the Hall Door and broke into and entered said Hall and also broke the door of a Chamber there, in which William Ponde, one of the Brethren, lay, and also broke a chest in the Hall and divers muniments then being in the same chest took and carried away.”

For this they were amerced 13^s. 4^d. But this was not all.

They say that Flete and Olyver, together with John Cappe, John Thrillowe, John Rode, Fuller, William de Gaunt, John Pavy, Alan Somnour and William Somnour on the following day entered the same Hospital again, and Barley, Oats, and Peas being in the same Hall to the value of fifteen shillings took out of the possession of John Newlond the Prior—and John Jolyff, Thresher, his servant drove out of the same Hall—and for this Sunday’s work they were amerced 18^s. 4^d.

But what follows is worse than all.

They say that on the following day—the Monday—with the advice and assent of Robert Boloigne they conspired together and made two false acquittances under the hand of the said Prior Newlond to

exclude him from his action of trespass—which were therein stated to be made by him at Ardleigh on the 14th November, where the same Prior had not been for seven years.

For this 13s. 4d. was thought sufficient fine, and then we lose sight of the matter altogether.

The right of the Burgesses to hunt the Hare, the Polecat, and the Fox, was a source of great pride and vanity among them in the middle ages. And so here we find an instance of their indignation when attacked on their weak side.

The Leet in the 19th year of Richard II. present that Richard Chamberlain and John Langland in the night of Thursday before Michaelmas, about the middle of the night, came to the Pillory at Colchester with force and arms, &c., and a certain Fox there tied up which John Hanx took at the Bounds at Fingringho and thereupon fastened on the aforesaid Pillory *to the honour of the Town of Colchester* by force and arms took and carried away *in contempt of the whole town of Colchester*.

I thought I must have mistaken the purport of the above entry, Fingringho being so far from the present Boundary, but, a day or two after, I met with a case in the 15 and 16 Richard II. where East Donyland is expressly stated to have been, at that time, within the Borough Liberty. (Roll 5.)

The Assize of Bread was, at times, so strictly enforced that the unfortunate Bakers frequently endeavoured to make a stand against it. Here is a notice of one of their attempts.

19th and 20th Richard II. (Roll 15.) The Bakers.

The Leet say that William Knight, John Marre, John Masoun, John Neylond, Rob^t. Baker, Henry Baker, William Sampson, Richard Couper, Andrew Donill, John Mille, John Brithe, and John Elys, Bakers, on the Monday after the Conversion of S^t. Paul, in the year 19, in the Tavern of Thomas Clerk, secretly conspired among themselves, amongst the Casks of Wine, out of the greatest malice against the Bailiffs who compelled them to bake bread for common use according to the Statute. They with one consent made a resolve that none of them would bake any bread, so that there should be a general famine among the Commons of the town. Also they present that William Sampson, Andrew Boulton, Robert Bakere, Richard Coupere, John Masoun, and John Brithe sent bread into the Country by their servants with Panniers on horses. And that from these doings there is a great deficiency of Bread within the liberties, and has so continued throughout the year.

Something about the Commons in 19 and 20 Richard II.

Robert Gordon commons the Common Pasture at Burgh Fields with stock of the Manor of Lexden which he rents.

Walter Vasour, of Elmstede, commons the Common Pasture at Dycheecrouch with 50 sheep.

Several matters worth noting will be found in the following presentments of the Hockday Leet, 2nd and 3rd Henry IV.

Item they present the Abbot of S^t. John for holding an uncleansed ditch at *Stow Rysland*, next the Gallows of Colchester, 30 perches long, whereby the King's way is submerged and injured to the great damage, &c. Amerced 2 shillings.

Also for not cleaning a ditch extending from the Gravel Pit to an Oak standing next the house of Richard Payne opposite same Gallows, 22 perches long, to the great damage, &c. Amerced 12^d.

Like presentments were made at the two other Leet Courts that year in almost similar terms, varied, however, just sufficiently for us to identify the site of the Gallows, and to say where Stow Risland (a name now quite lost) was.

The Leet say that the same Abbot holds an uncleansed ditch at Stow Risland next Herrymorislane 20 perches long, &c. 12^d.

And another at Stow Risland next the Gravel Pit, 30 perches long, where the way is under water, &c. 12^d.

And another extending from the Gravel Pet next the Galewys towards the Oak standing next the house of Richard Payne 22 perches long. 12^d.

They present that the Tenants of the Meadow called Fraunceysmoor keep a ditch uncleansed lying in Grenstede towards the King's way, extending towards an Oak called the King's Oak. 12^d.

Subsequent presentments bring the Chapel of St. Anne, the King's Oak, the Gallows, and Fraunceysmoor, into close proximity, and by their aid, and the help of Corporate Grants, we are able to fix the site of the Gallows at the point of Land at the end of East Street, where the road divides—one branch going to Wivenhoe, the other to Ardleigh. Land belonging to St. Anne's Chapel adjoined Gallows Field, and a Barn in East Street, is called Gallows Barn.

The King's Oak is frequently mentioned about this time. I shall have occasion to notice another ancient Oak when I come to the Books of Examinations and the Chamberlain's Accounts.

From the presentments 8th Henry IV. an extract shows the jealousy of the interference of the Courts Christian with the Burgh.

They present that David Somenour, notwithstanding the Ordinance of the Town that neither he nor any other process server of other places should carry or cite men or women remaining within the town limits elsewhere, he cited a certain Hawise Huckstere dwelling in the Liberty to Stortford, and extorted from her 16^d. against &c. fined 6^s. 8^d.

Thomas Somenour, for citing Isabella Kempstere and William Capper to Chelmsford. 6^d.

William Cavendish, Commissary, and Thomas his Clerk, for citing to Chelmsford, Stortford and elsewhere. 13^s. 4^d.

And for consorting and remaining with the others 3^s. 4^d.

In the 4th year of Henry V. we meet with references to old names.

Stephen Bishop, Almoner of St. John's obstructed a way leading to *Holfield*.

Roger Best, the Abbot, appropriated a piece of Land in Lodderslane,* another piece next Northsherde, another in the Burgh Field and also in Tye Field, and he had foul ditches at the King's

* Now "Abbeygate Street."

Oak at Munk Wick and turned a water course leading from "Charite Field" by the Chapel of St. Anne towards the King's Oak.

He also appropriated a certain parcel of land of the King's way *on which he built a stone Tower for defence of the Abbey.*

In another presentment it is stated to be opposite the house of John Sumpter.

I presume this is the Great Gate of the Abbey, which would fix the date of its building about 1412 to 1416.

At the same time John Hawote was presented for taking fesiants and pardices with nets and other "engines." John Kebbell likewise, and he also kept dogs to kill hares, &c.

In the 7th and 8th Henry V. we have reference to the old standing dispute about commoning.

John Goode was presented for holding, sustaining, and keeping a certain field at Burne Ponds enclosed with a gate for his separate use, where from ancient times it was wont to be common in commoning time, to the great damage of the Burgesses.

They present the Hermit of the Chapel of St. Anne for having an unelean ditch towards the place of Grenstede.

They present that William Bardolf (who was then Constable of the Castle) unjustly and against the King's peace lay in ambush in the Castle Bailey, and when the Bailiffs and honorable men of the town and their wives walked round it, as *from ancient times they were wont to do*, he seized, shut up and imprisoned them, without precept or warrant.

On the same day he lay in ambush by the common footpath on the East side of the Castle and there assaulted one John Browneswold against the Peace, &c.

They also present him for taking Cattle from the Common Ways and Pastures, and driving them into the Castle and shutting them up there until the owners paid a fine at his will.

This was, of course, an endeavour to get the Castle precincts clear of the numerous paths and encroachments upon it, but it does not appear to have been successful.

In the Hilary Presentments, 4th and 5th Henry VI. (Roll 12), Adam Synger, of Ardleigh, was presented for continually digging at le fayr crosse on King's wood heath, making great pits near the King's way. Roger Burgoyne, Butcher, held a ditch uncleansed at Tubbeswick, next the King's way, leading to King's wood heath, and Thomas Pykard held one in Wivenhoe next the Heath of Byche crouche, extending from Whitemoor Lane to Marchaunts Lane.

The references to the Cross where the Fair was held, and the Cross at the Heath of "Bych," must not be confounded—the Bich Cross was one of the Boundary Marks—the Fair Cross, a Market Cross, where tolls were collected, offenders fined, &c. It is astonishing how much ignorance prevails about these matters. Quite

recently, at an Archæological Meeting, a country squire was much commended for preserving an ancient Cross. He had taken it from its old site, where it marked the site of the forgotten market of the place, and he carried it away and put it into his park in a spot where four parishes met, the names of which he inscribed on the base of it. He converted a Market Cross into a Boundary Cross, and the members were congratulated on these being times when such things were not crept about ! or made the starting points for men with peas in their shoes to go to an adjoining abbey !

In the 22nd and 23rd Henry VI. we again find the Leet alive to the doings of the Poachers on their Manor. Robert Cupton was fined for fishing, hunting, and taking “ phesanes and perdrices ” against the Statute.

Among other defaults, Robert Silby and Henry Stamp, Wardens of the Brethren of the Guild of St. Helen, Colchester, were presented for keeping a bridge decayed, broken, and ruinous at the North Hill, before the granary pertaining to the Guild next St. Peter’s Churchyard.

John Edrych and John Sayer, sometime Chamberlains, for keeping a Bridge beyond the Town Gallows, called the Franchise Bridge, broken, decayed, and ruinous.

The Abbot of St. Osith had an unseoured ditch in Churche field at “ le Milend.”

In the 35th and 36th Henry VI. John Parnell held a foul ditch under Breggeland at the Gallows.

In the 38th and 39th years John Shemyng made a pit in the King’s Way beyond the Pillory opposite the house of Robert Barker, of Stoke. [This was in the Market place East of St. Runwald’s.]

In the 25th and 26th Henry VIII. “ We present Thurston’s wife for comforting le vacabunds in le cage ” 20^d.

William Thurston for stopping up a common stream. If it be not amended by next law day, *we shall ring him out of his freedom.*

[A reference to a custom which I find alluded to nowhere else.]

At the end of the Presentments of the 1st and 2nd Edward VI. is the following pitiful appeal, the whole force of which we can hardly appreciate in these days of Gas, Naptha, Paraffin, &c.

Master Baillies we desire you to loke on the Chaundelers that we may have Candle for our money, for we can get non of them for they serve the country, but we can get non.

In 5th and 6th Elizabeth John Colt the Miller was presented for fishing in the “ Marmaydes Hole ” and selling the fish he caught there. Therefore, &c., 5^s.

Where was the Mermaid’s Hole ?

But with abundant material, I must, nevertheless, close this part of my Report. My extracts are few and far between ; many of these Presentments are of great interest, although in a great degree local ; but there are notices of manners and customs of wider interest, and I feel assured a careful, well-arranged series of them would be most valuable in a printed form.

The right to prove Wills here was not like that of the Court of Hustings of London, where they proved all Wills and Testaments of real and personal property where the Testator resided in the City. Here they simply acted as a Court of Record of such part of the Testament as disposed of real property within the Burgh—with no other part of the Will or Testament had the Corporation anything to do.

The mode of proceeding is stated in all the earlier entries. The Executors brought the Testament on one of the Law Hundred Days before the Bailiffs to prove it so far as related to the lay fee. An extract is then given as to the disposition of lands or tenements in Colchester, then follows—

“ And on this proclamation was solemnly made in full hundred according to the custom, &c. If any one desired to say anything against the Testament in whole or in part why it should not be admitted and enrolled he might come within fifteen days and support his claim on oath in due form and he should be heard. And no one coming to say anything against it therefore adjudged a good and effectual Testament and to be enrolled, &c. And so enrolled, &c.”

Early in Richard II.'s time the whole Will and Testament were recorded, and there was then ingeniously inserted in the form of proof after the call for any one who had “ anything to say against the Testament in whole or in part,” the words or against “ *any legacy or disposition therein contained*,” but the alteration and consequent complete enrolment was soon given up, possibly on the Ecclesiastical authorities protesting against an assumption of their powers.

The Appointments of Officers, noted on the Court Rolls, were at first only those of the Sergeants, afterwards the Constables, but on the Roll of the 2nd year of Henry IV., and on all subsequent first Rolls [where remaining], there is a List of the various Officers of the Corporation, generally followed by the appointment of the three, and afterwards four, Sergeants, and their recognizances. This was continued as long as the Rolls continued to be made up.

The large amount of their recognizances—each £40, and the prominent position given them in the early Rolls, seems strange, for in such of their petitions and extracts as have been preserved, they show, from very early times, a very insubordinate spirit and sad want of education, but I reserve further observation on these for the present.

Whilst the office of Sergeant seems to have been much sought after, the more honorable post of Chamberlain went begging—numerous are the instances of fines paid for leave to back out of the office ; at one time things came to such a state that, in the 1st and 2nd years of Philip and Mary, three persons in succession paid the fine, and a fourth was elected and sworn ; and in the following year the number of refusals was five—five paid the fine rather than have anything to do with it.

The Demises of the Tolls show the fluctuations of Commerce, but some judgment requires to be exercised in taking out the results from the Calendar, as in some years the Tolls and the Cranage at the New Hythe, with the rent of the House, &c., there, are taken together, in other years separately demised. I have noted this where clear.

The Assize of Bread is very irregularly entered. One feature deserves mention. In many of the records the price of wheat at the time is noted—a very useful species of information rarely to be obtained in such an authentic form at the early period here given.

The Admission of Burgesses is a subject very prominent on my Calendar, and necessarily so, because so very prominent on the Rolls. There is not one matter so invariably present as this—none more difficult to deal with. The extreme uncertainty of the amount of the fines, about which there may have been rules, but if there were, they were constantly set at nought, Morant gives a summary, the correctness of which can be readily tested by the Calendar. In Edward II.'s time he gives 6s. 8d. to 8s. 2d. as the *usual* fine in the Calendar; it will be seen that of those on the Rolls, two were at 13s. 4d., three at 10s., one at 8s. 2d., six at 6s. 8d., whilst there was one at 5s., three at 3s. 4d., and three as low as 2s. During Edward III.'s time there was the nearest approach to a uniformity, Morant gives the rate as 10s. and 13s. 4d. The results from my Calendar are a hundred and ninety at 10s., but one as high as £10, one at £2, one at 36s. 8d., one at 24s., and five at 20s., and but one at 13s. 4d. One further test only. Morant gives Richard II.'s time as 26s. 8d. Actual results from the Rolls—two at £5, two at £4, one at £3. 6s. 8d., one at £3, two at 55s. 4d., four at 40s., four at 30s., *sixteen at 26s. 8d.*, TWENTY-NINE AT 23s. 4d., AND EIGHTY-THREE AT 20s. !

In later times it became a custom to admit a free born Burgess for nothing, and an apprentice to a Burgess for 3s. 4d., and many admissions in the time of Elizabeth and after were made in consequence of taking a poor town lad apprentice or providing for the support and education of one.

The Election of Burgesses to Parliament is rarely alluded to. The most curious reference to it is in the 21st and 22nd Henry VIII., where a gentleman turned out “at the command and special desire of the Earl of Oxford,” and the town elected one of his Council, Richard Riche, gentleman, “at his especial request made to the Bailiffs !”

The enrolment of Apprenticeship Indentures, which towards the middle of the first James's reign monopolized so large a space on the Rolls, forms a rather uninteresting portion of the Documents—all are so much alike in their provisions

that nothing but the fact of the fee for enrolment being contingent on their being fully set forth can have caused the continuance of the practice so long. Still from these some curious information may be extracted. Morant notices the Indenture of one of the Rebows in 1617. Peter Rebow apprenticed to James Newell, but, oddly enough, he does not mention the Trade.

One of the earliest cases "a minstrel" had three apprentices in one year.

IV.—Sessions Rolls.

The earliest existing Sessions Rolls are of the 25th year of Elizabeth. They had been separately kept for some years before, but all earlier ones are now lost.

A few entries relating to Gaol Delivery and Sessions occur on the Court Rolls of Henry VIII. and Edward VI.

The state of confusion in which these Rolls were when I entered upon my task may be judged when I state that there was scarcely an early bundle which had not either some of the Court or other Rolls mixed up in it, or had some parts of it to be brought from other places. A note I took of one Roll, at first sight in good order, regularly rolled and tied up and endorsed, will give an idea of the confusion they were in, *ex uno disce omnes*.

SESSIONS ROLL, 1705.

Precept to summon a Jury 1681.

Part of a Leet Presentment undated, but still earlier.

Part of a Serjeant's Petition for fines to be allowed in account. 15 Henry VI.

Part of an undated Leet Presentment apparently of Elizabeth's time.

The 8th Membrane of the 10th year of Henry VI. Court Rolls.

Another of the 6th and 7th years of Henry V.

The earliest Rolls are made up in a Gaol Delivery Roll, on which the Indictments are filed, and rolled up in it. They have been very irregularly kept; sometimes the sentence on the offender is noted on the margin of the Gaol Delivery Roll, sometimes at the foot of the Indictment, and sometimes it does not appear at all.

On the backs of all the Indictments are the findings of the Grand Jury; the "Billa vera" or the "Ignoramus," from which "ignore" has become a household word.

After the Commonwealth no Gaol Delivery Rolls remain until modern times. The Rolls from 1660 are made up of Apprenticeship Indentures, Certificates of attendance at Church, and of receiving the Sacrament, and the Indictments with the finding of the Grand Jury endorsed, and nothing more.

I have noted in the Repertory the cases where Capital Punishment was inflicted.

In the 40th and 41st Elizabeth three men were hanged for robbery and two for burglary, and in the following year two men for burglary at the Trinity Sessions, and two women and one man for robbery from the person in October. These are the greatest number in one year.

The last recorded on the Rolls were in 1654, when three persons were hanged—one for murder and two for robbery.

The Chamberlains' Accounts refer to still later executions, of which no information can be found on these Rolls.

In the 14th and 15th Charles I. are some half-dozen indictments against a John Davis, sometime of Stratford-le-Bow, saddler, for robberies from the person and other like offences. These are all endorsed "*stat mutus*," he stands mute. On one is added "*Judic de paine fort and dur usq: mort: scdm formâ statut: &c.*" Judgment of "*paine fort and dur until he dies, according to the form of the Statute, &c.*" Another has it in curt English, "he would not plead and was pressed to death." Those who have not read up the old law can have no idea of the refinement of cruelty of this fearful process. Here is a sentence actually carried out, taken from Sir Julius Cæsar's Admiralty Correspondence, 1575 :—

One Henry Smith, accused of piracy, stood mute ; he was ordered back to the Marshalsea, and there to be placed naked (except his breeches) upon the earth upon his back, with a hole in the earth, in which his head was to be laid, and on his body to be placed as much stone and iron as he could sustain, *and more*. And while he lived he was to have the worst bread and water of the prison, not running but stagnant water. And the day he ate he was not to drink, and the day he drank to have no bread, and so to continue till he died.

So I may be excused for hoping poor John Davis's sufferings were not very much prolonged.

Whilst on the subject of executions, I may refer to the fact of my having ascertained the locality of the ancient Gallows of the Town at the end of East Street, as before stated.

Executions must have been discontinued there in Henry VIII.'s time, for in his 21st and 22nd year we incidentally gather from the Court Rolls that a plaint for debt was brought to a sudden close by the death of the defendant (see Calendar, p. 98), a marginal note giving the reason—"discontinued by Defendant's death—Hung in the Market," and the Chamberlains' Accounts of later times have payments for preparing the Gallows, &c., from which it would appear that the place of execution was in the neighbourhood of the Moot Hall.

Although the information these Rolls furnish is extremely limited, yet we now and then get curious glimpses of the manners of the times. Thus

Margaret Holbige, indicted for exercising the "art of fascination," in the 25th year of

Elizabeth, as well of men as of animals, caused one Elizabeth Pickas, by her diabolical practices, to waste away.

They did not kill the poor old woman, but they imprisoned her for a year, and put her in the Pillory four times—once in every quarter, on market days. Small mercy had the old witch from the ignorant and superstitious country people gathered there.

In the days of Oliver one unfortunate fellow, who endeavoured to make money of the “ Art,” is indicted for a Cheater, receiving monies of people to discover lost or stolen goods, and such like, by a pretended art, which (adds the Roll) he is not able to do. So he was sent to the Pillory.

At the same Sessions, in 1651, a Burglar, on being found guilty, desired the benefit of “ the Clargie,” and “ read like a Clarke.” He was thereupon burned in the right hand.

At that time education was certainly at a low ebb in Colchester. I have seen an Inquisition within a few years of it signed by fifteen Jurymen, of whom but two wrote their names, and those did so with obvious difficulty.

The Pillory, at one time so frequently in use, was, it appears, in the Market Place, a little East of the Church of St. Runwald.

Of other punishments—the Tumbril and the Cucking or Ducking Stool—I shall have to say a word when I speak of Chamberlains’ Accounts.

V.—Corporation Accounts.

The Chamberlains’ Accounts, which, for the purposes of evidence, are more important than any other of the Corporate Documents, are in the worst state.

The custom of making them up on Paper and not putting them on Parchment with the Court Rolls, and keeping every year by itself, has led to their being thrown about, torn, and injured, so that scarcely a dozen can be found in a tolerably fair state of preservation.

I have succeeded in getting together a number of them, more or less perfect, from 1599 to 1772.

There are a quantity of Rolls of original Bills paid by the Chamberlains, and charged in their accounts from 1579 to 1834, with many extensive gaps, as from 1629 to 1637, from 1645 to 1662, from 1663 to 1698, and from 1739 to 1777.

As a specimen of the style of Account I take up that of 17 and 18 James I. He charges himself that year with receipts of rents and tolls amounting to £271, the rent of Bay and Say Hall to the Dutchmen added £30 more, and fines for Licences to sell Bays and Says, £60. Fines, Law Hundred and Sessions, £40 more. The rent of the Woolhall £20. Amerciaments in Colne Water figure at £3. 6s. 8d., and there are a few small additions for deodands, fish stalls, profits of St. Denis’s Fair, &c.

The "Discharge" shows his payments. To the Town Preachers £66. 13s. 4d., and the rent of House £10. Free schoolmaster £16. Liveries of Deputy Town Clerk, the Sergeants, Waits, Beadles, Ringers of St. Botolph, Sexton of St. Peter, and *Bottlemaker*, £22. 2s., and Badges for them, £6. 12s. Then follow a number of Payments for Accounts ordered to be paid by the Bailiffs, of which a separate List is given, containing among other items,

				£	s.	d.
Bill for Sugar and Eringo Roots	..	..	..	..	13	8 6
Charges for condemned Prisoners	..	..	..	..	1	0 0
Work about St. Botolph's Bell	..	..	..	..	1	5 0

In running my eye over Miscellaneous receipts I observe that in 6 and 7 Charles I. the Chamberlain received "for a parcel of a Cup called a Beaker," found in a certain Well, "treasure trove," 15s. 8d.

I may add I noticed on the Leet Rolls persons amerced for *concealing* the finding of "treasure trove."

In 44th Elizabeth divers sums were received for Wreck thrown ashore in Colne Water, and for goods waived. In 22nd James I. for goods of a *felo de se* 20s., for two horses strayed 30s.

In 6th Charles II. fines for Common Councilmen coming without their gowns to the Moothall 3s. 4d. 17th Charles I. for an Anchor found in Colne Water 15s.

Among the Payments in 44th Elizabeth repairs *to the Cage* (just outside East Gate), to St. John's College for scholarship of Mrs. Lewes, £7. 22nd James I. *repairing the Cucking Stool*, 12s. 4d. 1632. Building a new Library, £135. 12s. 6d. —this was at Red Row.

A few extracts from the payments of the year 1620.

				£	s.	d.
Messenger for the proclamation of the Parliament	..	..	..	..	3	4
Paid to Mr. Boxtone for 4 th . of Roots given to the Lord Bishop of London his Chanec.	..	..	..	..	16	0
For a Box to put the roots in	..	..	..	..		6
Paid the 16 Januery to a Messenger for two Proclamations—the one for adjourning the Parliament a weke, the other forbiding all persons to speak any thing concerning the Shelt [Scheldt]	..	..	..	..	6	8
Paid the 12 February to a Messenger for a proclamation for the keping of Lent	..	..	..	..	1	6
Paid the 28 th February to Mr. Boxtone for 10 th . of rotes, and for the boxes to put them uppe in, sent to London to Mr. Browne by the appointment of Mr. Bailiffs	..	..	..	..	2	3 2
Paid 10 th March to Messenger for proclamation for apprehending of Sir Giles Mompesson	..	..	..	..	3	4

	£	s.	d.
Paid 17 th March to a Messenger for a proclamation against the Lowt ^y (the Lottery)		3	4
Same day to the Players—being my Lord Chamblines men	1	0	0
Paid 31 st March, 1621, a Messenger for the subsidy		3	4
1 st April to the Players, being the King's Servants	2	0	0
Same day to a Messenger for three Proclamations—one for banishing Sir Giles Mompesson, one for Innes and Alehouses, the other for Bills of Conformity. .	10		0
Item to M ^r . Kemp for three Books, videlicet a Cooper's Dixonorey	14		0
Rides Dixonorey		8	6
Nomen Claters		3	8
for carredge of them from London			6

The Eringo Roots have only recently ceased to be an article of Commerce, the last manufacturer with the secret of their preparation was an elderly maiden lady who supplied Mr. Thomas Smith, Druggist, in High Street, when asked for them. They were considered beneficial in pulmonary diseases. But for many years their renown has ceased—a sad change, when we remember that they were once thought, when properly prepared and packed in Boxes “perfumed and guilt,” fit presents for Princes next in importance to the inevitable Oyster.

Never were the necessity for particular Books more strongly evidenced than in the above entry, the Dictionaries and Nomenclatures are difficult of recognition in the form they appear.

In the 17th and 18th Charles I. a Bill for Sugar Loaves for presents amounted to £11. 6s. 8d., they gave the Keepers for two Venisons £1, for a Prisoner to hang Page 13s. 4d. In 1661 it cost £5. 19s. to change the Parliament Money in the Chamberlain's hands for current coin. In 1681 the Constables received a shilling “when Stickalorum was whipt.”

Before this time the Bottle Maker had become a thing of the past—that functionary, whose liveries and badges had for years figured in the Accounts, had dropped out. What was he? I knew the hospitality of the Town was great, and my surmises ran in the direction of Leather Bottles, but at last my eye fell on the “Oath” of the Bottle Maker in the Book of Ordinances, and there I read that one Thomas Skyner was sworn 24th December, 4th Elizabeth, to make *et purponendum* [a word the meaning of which can only be guessed, as it is not to be found in any Dictionary ancient or modern] or press together Hay by the bottle [or bundle] within the Burgh, his allowance for the halfpenny bottle was £2 says the entry, meaning, doubtless, exactly the reverse, that he was to have a halfpenny for every £2 bundle. I have never met with this Officer anywhere else, nor can I learn that he is remembered by any other Antiquary to whom I have named him.

In an undated Chamberlain's Account about 1679 are the following items :—

“ EXTRAORDINARIES.”

	£	s.	d.
Inp. paid to y ^e Ringers on y ^e 5 th of Nov. . . . .	..	5	0
Gaol Delivery. It. p ^d y ^e grand Inquest, being 15 men at y ^e Gaol Delivery ..	1	10	0
It. p ^d . one and thirty Constables	15	6	
It. p ^d . y ^e executioner and for drink	1	0	6
It. p ^d . for making y ^e grave and for charges	5	0	
It. for Shakles and iron work for y ^e Gaol.	1	2	1
It. paid John Newton's Bill concerning y ^e felons	8	7	0
It. p ^d . John Streaton's Bill for y ^e gallows, and fitting y ^e Court for y ^e Gaol Delivery	7	0	0

* * * * *

	£	s.	d.	
Paid Miles Bull by Mr. Mayors order	8	0	0	} in apprehending those y ^t robb'd the Ipswich Coach.
„ Thomas Wacham	3	0	0	
„ Jer Talcott	3	0	0	
	£6	8	0	

Among the Charges in 1717-18 is one for a payment to Edward Bartholomew, for doing something to the Broad Oak, the word is “pning,” which may be a contraction for pruning or preserving; the sum paid was half-a-crown.

The Chamberlains' Bills and Vouchers form a large mass of documents, beginning in 1579, and ending in 1834, with many intervals, some of many years as between 1584 and 1602, 1629 and 1637, 1645 and 1663, 1663 and 1698, &c. I add a few curious extracts from those I examined, and I could have formed no conception of the amount of eating and drinking carried on here at the Corporation expense had I not had the ocular proof furnished by these accounts.

1618-19 For a new headed basket for the priseners to gather vitells, xiiij^d.
for Rushes for the Lexion day last 8 Bondells, 7^s. 7^d.

Aug^t 19th, 1619.

To the Right Worshipfull Mr. Bailiffs

A Bill of Charges giving yo^r Worships to understand that upon this last election daye there did receyve dynner at my house twoe hundred and eight persones, *viewed and toled* by the apoyntment of Mr. Chamberlin, by me, Frauncis Clayse.

Itm. for making of grafe in Hallyard for beringe the boye weh died in the Mote hall, and bering of him, 18^d.

Work done to the House of Correction as followeth :—

Imprimis for Colleeping the Mill Spindel, and making a new let end, 1^s. 8^d.

Itm. for the winch and the extre mending for the Mill with Spiler, 1^s. 6^d.

1698.

By order of M^r. Mayer—going to Ardleigh after highwaymen—

						s.	d.
Paid Benjamin Clamtre	..	..	..	..	..	2	0
„ Thomas Lumia	..	..	..	..	..	2	0
„ Larance Claudis	..	..	..	..	..	2	0
and on shill in drinck	..	..	..	..	..	1	0
for persuen hiewaymen	..	..	..	..	..	7	0

15 Sept., 98, Mr. Chamberlin Pay this Bill to Ed. Johnson, place it to the Town Account.

Y^r R^d. Creffield.

1697.

					s.	d.
	One large Padlock with two locks for the Cage	..	..	..	2	6
1698.	April 25.	3 Tune of Stones from the Hithe to the Cage	..	..	6	0
1697.	Nov. 5 th .	for 2 Tune of Stone from the Castle to the Bridge	..	..	2	0
1698.	Mar. 29.	for a tune and a quarter of stons from the Castle to the Bridge	..		1	0
„	July 6.	A tune and a quarter	„	„	1	0
„	Aug. 20.	the like	„	„	1	0

This shows some extensive demolition at the Castle.

“WORK DONE AT THE MOOT HALL.”

						s.	d.
for Fettering Spencer	..	..	..	..	..	1	6
for Fettering Tho. Willis	..	..	..	..	..	2	6
for Fettering Townsend and Elliott		..	..	..	..	2	0

Oct. 16, 1698. rec. the Contents, J. White.

April 30th, 1698.

	£	s.	d.
Gilt a Mace for the Town of Colchester wt 89 ez. at 2 ^s . 6 ^d . p. oz. . .	11	2	6
For Burnishing the same		10	0
For a new globe with Cross and bottem, fees to the same, wt 10 ^{oz} . 6 ^d . at 5 ^s . 5 ^d .			
p. oz., the silver is	2	15	0
For the fashen at 2 ^s . 6 ^d . p. oz.	1	5	0
For putting it in order and soldering the cracks	1	0	0
For the case to put it in	1	0	0
Given the Waginer to take care of it.		1	0
	17	13	6

There are several interesting Resolutions about alterations of the Mace, and removing and restoring the King's Arms, in the time of the Commonwealth and after, in the Assembly Books.

The Sergeants' Petitions or Extracts are copies of the Leet Presentments of each year, arranged so that the Sergeant of each Ward was furnished with the fines, &c., he had to collect ; and were called Petitions from their concluding with a prayer to the Bailiffs that he might be allowed to collect them in accordance with the decision of the Leet Inquest, and they generally have the Bailiffs " Allocatur " endorsed. Being duplicates of the Presentments, they are of value, where (as sometimes happens) the original Presentments for the year are lost.

The occasional additions and remarks made by the Sergeants show them to have been, generally, very illiterate men, and complaints are occasionally addressed by them to the Bailiffs, at the foot of these petitions, in very disrespectful terms. The curious Red Book has an entry so early as the 47th Edward III., where they are spoken of as a drinking set, who assumed more power than really belonged to them. But the Burgesses had only themselves to thank for placing more power in the hands of such men than they ought to have had ; their recognizances of £40 each from a very early date, show that they must have had a very great power of oppression and extortion when they had the collection of a multitude of small fines, many as low as 1d., if they amounted to anything like £40 in the year from each of them.

In a deposition in the Assembly Book of 1574, one Robert Yonger makes a long complaint of the treatment he had had from the Sergeants with reference to a prisoner he wanted to give into their charge ; concluding " he sayeth they had rather go to Master Bayliffs or the Aldermen than to the Sergeants, they are *so lordlike and careless to do their Office !*"

Anything like regularity ceases with James I., the only extract after his time being one of the 30th Charles II., showing, however, the same system still kept up.

VI.—Burgess Rolls.

The Subsidy and Composition Rolls are of some interest. The Subsidy Roll of 1600 gives a List of all the principal Contributors in the Town, as do the Assessments for Subsidy in 1648 and 1672.

The Roll of 1648 is further of interest for having a List of those excused because their houses had been burnt during the Siege, the great majority being on the South side of the Town.

The Solitary Roll of the Masters of the Guild of St. Helen's, shows what they held in the town in the 20th year of Henry VI., subsequently granted to Lord Audeley.

VII.—Oaths and Declarations.

One other Roll, of some importance, is a modern one, containing the Oaths and Declarations of the Members of the Corporation when it started under the new Charter in 1763.

I must now turn to the Books.

I.—Assembly Books.

Of these the first division is the Assembly Books, the name of which clearly indicate their purpose.

The first volume commences in 1576, but for three years before that time the minutes are entered in the first volume of the Law Hundred or Monday Court Books—those before that time, if any were regularly kept, have been lost, an occasional Ordinance or Resolution only appearing on the Court Rolls.

All the later volumes have good indices at the beginning or end of the Book, and a notice of all recorded matters is unnecessary here. For preparing a good History of the Town a careful perusal of these Books is absolutely necessary.

II.—Court Books.

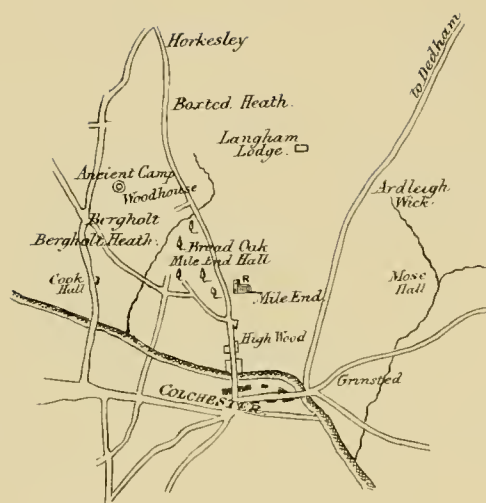
The Law Hundred and Foreign Court Books are, in fact, the Original Minute Books from which the Court Rolls were made up ; most of the very early ones have been lost or destroyed. I found a number of the leaves of the Books of Henry VII.'s time, which, as the Rolls are lost, I have placed in a separate case.

III.—Sessions Books.

The Sessions Books comprise the Books of examination and recognizances, which contain a quantity of interesting matter.

There are a few loose sheets as early as Edward IV.'s reign, and a few of Henry VIII., but the series begins in 1561, and goes down, with some few gaps, to 1687, after that time the depositions were kept loose, and are, consequently, mostly lost. The Sessions Minutes begin in 1599, and continue regularly down to 1826, but contain little else than formal entries of Appeals against orders of removal, Bastardy recognizances, and other details of business.

Some of the Books of Examinations and Recognizances have been also used as Books of Entries of Proclamations, Privy Council Letters, and other memoranda of importance, as have also some of the early Monday and Thursday Court Books, but I will say more of these when I speak of the Books of Entries.



From BOWEN'S MAP — *Circa 1760.*

A large proportion of the Depositions in these Books relate to questions of doubtful paternity, but there are numerous examinations in cases of murder, burglary, robbery, &c., full of illustration of manners and customs.

The recognizances contain some details of interest, as the recognizances of the Butchers in the reign of Elizabeth against killing meat in Lent, the Oyster Dredgers' recognizances, &c.

I have not been able to go carefully through these books, but will give an instance of their interest. It relates to the Milend Broad Oak.

In an examination of 1646 one John Peirson, apprehended for robbing his master, one John Shunie, of St. Mary's parish, said that—

He went on the 26th of April to Milend, and coming home from thence to the said Shunie's house did meete with the said Shunie on this side Mileende broad oake.

Again in 1679, in the examination of John Pledger, late of Cambridge, 16th October, 1679 :

He sayth y^t he lay last night at y^e Angell in Lexden, and went not thence till the sun was an houre high this morning, and was travelling towards Harwich in order to transporting himself, being heretofore condemned for stealing a horse and pardoned upon condicion y^t he left y^e Kingdom wthin six months from the 7th day of August last, and further sayth that travelling this morning neere the broade Oake in Mileende wthin this town he found in the road a payr of baggs, and in it a silver tobacco box with 8 guynées bound in black silk, and 5 gold rings, a silver spone, and other broken plate, and a payr of silver buckles and a silver tooth pick.

John Pledger,

his  mark.

In the Chamberlain's Accounts, as I before noticed, is a payment to one Bartholomew with reference to the Broad Oak, in 1717-18.

In Bowen's Map of Essex, published about 1760, and Morant's Lexden Hundred Map, 1768, are the last notices I have of the Broad Oak ; its site is indicated in Bowen's Map as a little beyond Mile End Hall. Nothing is now known about it.

In Savernake Forest, at the present time, are two ancient Oaks of gigantic size, called the King Oak and the Braden Oak.

The King Oak is now tottering to its fall, one huge limb, bigger than most oaks, was blown off a year or two ago, and the two remaining branches are almost leafless and decaying ; within its hollow trunk many a small party have found shelter from the storm. The Braden Oak, notwithstanding its great stature and its great age, for it has a genuine Saxon name, is still vigorous, and spreads its branches over an enormous space of ground, is still the Broad Oak.

Here in the Old Kingswood Forest were two noted oaks with the same names, the

Leet presentments showed a King's Oak at Greenstead, at the end of East Street, which disappears in Henry VI.'s time. Of the other I have given all the particulars I can gather, above. Numerous other Oaks remained after the disafforesting of King's Wood; besides the King Oak and the Broad Oak, the Leet Rolls mention Great Oaks in East Street near the Gallows; and in the Perambulation of 1637 (in the Assembly Book for that year, and printed by Morant, p. 95), we have Robin Hood's Oak "right against Thomas a Bridge, on the left hand of Buttolph's Brook, after crossing the river at Mott's Bridge;" and in the Perambulation of 1671 it is added that the Oak stood "right on the pitch of the Hill," and afterwards in the latter Perambulation the Boundary is stated as going "inside the hedge of Soame Wood to Goresbridge, which is at the bottom of 'Beggars Oak' Heath, leading to Ardley Street from Gallow Green."

Pledger's examination is curious as illustrating another subject, that of transportation. In 1679 we did not trouble ourselves where our criminals went, provided they took themselves out of the Country. There does not seem to have been much care taken to ensure that they did even that, for if Pledger had not been caught in a burglary red handed, he might have wandered about pilfering right and left with impunity. He professes to be travelling to the nearest port, which he was to reach in six months' from his conviction; he was to travel by the directest highway and by day. Certainly, if he had been convicted at Cambridge, the Angel at Lexden and the Crown at Milend scarcely seem to be in the direct road to Harwich. Be that as it may, it was the direct road to a great misfortune to him—finding saddlebags and golden guineas and broken plate. Of course he felt it his duty to possess himself of them, and to endeavour to trace the real owner.

Other depositions place matters in a totally different light. Sir John Shaw's house at Colchester had been broken into the night before, and hue and cry immediately raised, the country round scoured, and Pledger and another man caught in hiding at the Inn at Milend—Pledger with the things he mentions, and a number of others he does not mention, thrust under the bed into which he had got—broken silver candlesticks, &c.

I had noted also an account given of himself by another Horsestealer and Highwayman, which might have furnished De Foe with a plot.

Almost every Corporation in the Kingdom had a number of Books of Entries in which important local events, Pleas affecting their Liberties, Oaths, Ordinances, Constitutions, Charters, Laws, Customs, and a number of miscellaneous matters were entered for the convenience of reference,—White Books, Black Books, Red Books, and Golden Books.

The principal Books of Entries at Colchester were the Red Parchment Book and the Red Paper Book, both commenced about the same time—the end of Edward

III.'s time, and the beginning of that of Richard II. ; in some cases these Books were considered supplementary to the Court Rolls, as in the following instance :—

5th Henry IV. Roll 27 dorse.

The same day the Bailiffs and Community conceded and demised to Roger Spendlove a certain void place of land, as more fully appears in length and breadth in the *Red Parchment Book*.

The entry is found in the Book now called the Oath Book, p. 81, which, from this and other references, I am able to identify as the Red Parchment Book.

An epitome of the contents of this Book appears in the Repertory, p. 53. The largest portion of it is devoted to notes of Burgesses' admissions and Corporate Grants and demises from the Court Rolls, from the 1st Edward III. to the 5th of Elizabeth, and another large portion is occupied by the various forms of Oath administered from an early period to modern times to every variety of Corporate Officer.

There is a valuable Custom Roll of ancient date, a curious specimen of the mother tongue,—the Bounds of the Liberties stated to be from Court Rolls (long ago lost) of the 6th Edward I. There are the Constitutions of Richard II. and Henry IV. printed by Strutt, and the Articles of the Law Hundred Leet Inquest in Latin and as unreadable English. In it, too, is the original of the so-called "Colchester Chronicle," printed in Cromwell's History—a curious mixture of fact and fiction, but from which it appears that the copy printed by Cromwell was a very incorrect one.

I had marked the Orders concerning the Plague of 1665, and the Oaths of the Searchers and Bearers for extract, as well as several other scattered notices, but I have been unable to fulfil my intentions.

The still more curious Volume—the Red Paper Book—I had given up for lost. I had noticed references to it, and had several times had it in my hands without identifying it. At last, on looking carefully into a volume in oaken boards, nearly half destroyed by damp and decay, I came to the conclusion I must have found the Red Paper Book, a conclusion I was soon able to establish indubitably by a reference to the Court Rolls and the Red Parchment Book.

In the latter, in the notes of the 35th and 36th Edward III., it is noticed that there was a Perambulation in that year, "as testified in the Red Paper Book, fo. 45." And in the 47th year another, likewise attested by the same Book, fo. 7. (Oath Book, fo. 33.)

In the Parchment Index to the Red Paper Book we read, "p. xliij Perambulacio Banlieuē Colcē," and this doubtless extended to the 45th page, but those pages are lost.

At page 7, which still exists, there is a statement to the effect that Perambulation of the Liberty was made in the time of Reyne and Clerk, Bailiffs, in the 47th and 48th Edward III.

In so bad a condition was this Book that to save what remained I was obliged to remove it from the oaken covers and place it leaf by leaf in a guarded book in a wooden case, labelled "Red Paper Book."

Why it was so called I cannot tell, unless the cover was originally Red Leather—the little remaining of it was a deep brown.

The paper is very thick and woolly, and difficult to write on. The Paper Mark consists of a long perpendicular line, crossed at each extremity by two short lines, forming a star at top and bottom, between two small circles. The same mark occurs on the paper of a Household Book of some person of distinction living at the close of Edward III.'s reign, No. 16 of Mr. Hunter's "Specimens of Watermarks used by the Early Manufacturers." "Archæologia," vol. 37, pp. 451-2.

The Repertory has, at p. 59, a table of its contents. I will now notice a few of the more important.

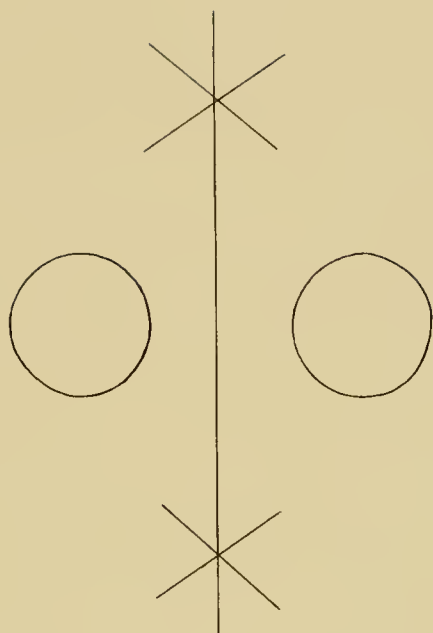
The first entry which gives any clue to the date is a form of Oath for the Bailiffs, in which they swear allegiance to "King Richard," but most of the entries on the first eight or ten leaves relate to matters occurring in the last years of Edward III.

The first and third paragraphs relate to the building of a Barge for the King, which had been ordered to be done by Ipswich and Colchester jointly; both seem to have pestered the King to so good a purpose that for their easement Hadleigh was joined with them in bearing the cost of the construction.

Whoever the writer may have been he had a great admiration for one man—and one can only be thankful he did not take on himself the task of recording his whole life instead of a single year of it—there is hardly a guess to be formed of what the length of it might have been. His hero was one William Reyne, who makes his appearance in the third page, in a Notice that on the Monday after the Nativity of the Virgin, in the 47th year of Edward III., Alexander Cogger and William Cristemasse, then Bailiffs sitting in the Common Hall as the manner is, by their Ordinances read and published and explained in the mother tongue to the Community, elected with the consent of the Community, twenty-four men of them, not suspect but circumspect, who being sworn, elected William Reyne and John Clerk Bailiffs for the year ensuing, of whose acts nothing here said because their deeds follow—the end prove the acts—*exitus acta probat*.

So absorbed was he in William Reyne that he forgot Clerk entirely, and had to put his name in afterwards.

On the next page begins the record of the acts. They elected Augustine Plomer farmer of the Town Tolls for the year, for which the usual rent had been £35, but he must do more—so William Reyne, "as well by his *most cautious manner and by honied words*," persuaded Plomer not only to pay £35 but to undertake the repair of the Moot Hall before the end of the year, which, it is exultingly added, made full a hundred shillings addition to his rent.



PAPER MARK.
RED PAPER BOOK.

ABOUT 1310

Nor was this all. John Godard was elected Measurer at New Hythe. The Measurer had before paid nothing, now, however, Reyne again steps forth, and, as well by his *most honied words* as by some other means not stated, he got Godard to agree to pay 50s. a year for his office and to find pledges.

Again—the Market for Wool had been held in the open Street and in the Gateway of one Thomas Deynes, in St. Runwald's, “to the singular profit of Deynes,” without the licence of the Bailiffs or profit to the Town, therefore Reyne spied out the Hall Cellar, and by divers alterations, repairs, and whitewashings, contrived to make a Woolhall, which he hired of the Corporation for 50s. a year, but on letting it for £4 gave the town the benefit of the increased rent.

None of the “acts” escape. The steps into the Hall, worn by the feet of the town and country folk gathering there, get dangerous, new stone steps are placed not only in the south entrance, but also on the north side, re-placing mingled stone and brick by the procurement of Reyne and Clerk, and by the hands of William Masoun, so that the whole Community of the Town, as well as the country round, and all passing over them from day to day, are rejoiced to behold the sight. (I am actually translating verbatim !) And he warns future Bailiffs to take a lesson from Reyne and Clerk.

Further—they leased some void ground by the Castle Ditch—profitless before—for a small annual rent ; and one Geoffrey Dawe, a Merchant, having for some time made use of a piece of vacant ground near the New Hythe to deposit his merchandise, is compelled to pay rent for the future.

Then Reyne arranged that a Wool Fair, which had theretofore been held at the West end of St. Runwald's Church, should be held thereafter in the Hall and Garden, and the adjacent Market Stalls extending to Cornhill ; by which the town, for the future, would make a profit.

But we have not yet done with William Reyne. The Shops with Sollars built over them, with the sumptuous Porch, and a certain Vault overhanging the entrance to the Common Hall, are constructed and ornamented by the diligent circumspection of Reyne and Clerk, and *principally of Reyne*, by the hands of William Bentley, of Colchester, Carpenter ; and, of course, all passers by stop in wonderment how a void place can have been put to so useful and ornamental a purpose. Such is the effect of a dozen lines of eulogy.

The next page begins with a flourish about the Moot Hall ; it was held in great veneration by the people ; it was the place where the more necessary Muniments of the Community were kept ; where Justice was so administered to all that it might be called the dwelling-place of equity and honour ! And as the head is to the body so the Hall is the head and honour of the whole town. Here, further, Reyne and Clerk were not idle ; they added the handsome triple seat, and the other seats in the Hall. And bearing in mind the health of souls and the preservation of

life, and the commands of the Lord to visit the prisoners, and a great deal more concerning the deep misery of the unfortunate people in prison, they, Reyne and Clerk, caused two posts to be erected having iron spikes, and being bound round with lead, on either side the entry into the Hall, and there, fastened with "stout" iron chains, the prisoners were placed, so that standing, sitting, lying, and resting, they might seek their necessaries from the passers by !

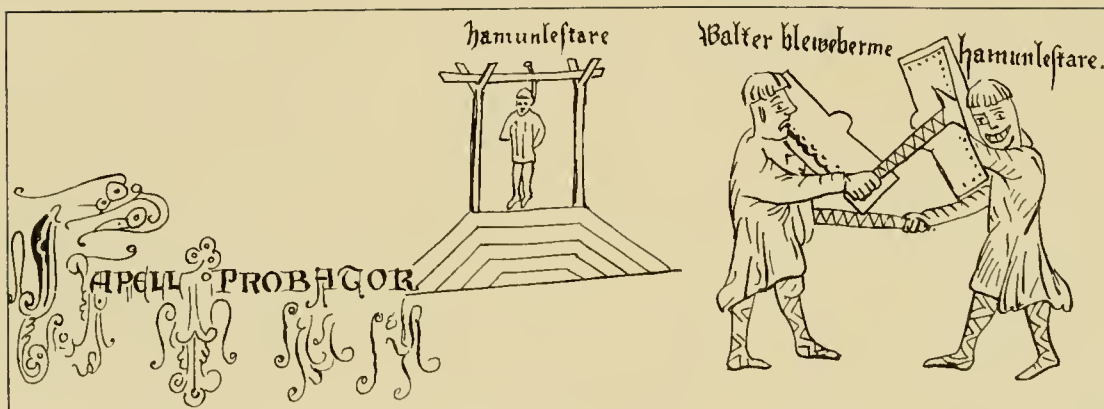
The next entry states that on the Monday after the Nativity of the Virgin, John Sextayn and John Curteys were elected Bailiffs for the ensuing year. The same hand continued the record for some pages, but all praise has been exhausted in the record of Reyne. Nothing comes from him but the bare statement of facts—his hero was gone, and the voice of eulogy is dumb. Reyne certainly had been most active and valuable, and a simple record of his services would have been grateful to our feelings, but when we are told the whole country went into fits because he put in stone steps for brick, ridicule is brought on both parties.

He has, however, favoured us with one curious piece of information, the notice of a trial by battle. I give a close translation of the entry.

"The Monday next after the feast of St. James the Apostle, in the 49th year of King Edward III., Sir John Cavendish, Knight, and his associates, by the King's Commission sat to make delivery of the Castle, before whom was led a certain prisoner, John Huberd by name, of Halstede, who accused John Bokenham, the elder, of Stanstede, of divers robberies and homicides by them jointly committed. Which same John Bokenham was immediately led before the said Justices, and upon the accusation of the said John Huberd, interrogated. The said John Bokenham denied it, and said that he was not guilty, and thereupon waged duel with the aforesaid John Huberd. And the said John Huberd did the like. And it is considered by the said Justices that duel should be joined—namely, on the morrow. And the Sheriff of Essex is ordered that he should prepare clothing and arms, as accustomed in England, the said day, and safely keep the bodies of the said Johu and John, so that he had their bodies before the said Justices on that day on the north side of the said Castle to fight the same. On which day and place they were led before the Justices clothed in leather coats, with staves piked with horn, and targets in their hands, and licence being given by the Justices, and silence proclaimed, as the manner is, they commenced the terrible fight. At length the approver overcame the accused, saying 'criant, crient,' so that he acknowledged himself guilty, and he was thereupon hung, and the approver led again into the said Castle."

With the purpose of ascertaining whether any other notice existed of this duel, I have looked to the Gaol Delivery Rolls in the Record Office, but the Essex Roll for the year is lost. On the Pipe Roll, however, the Sheriff claims allowance of 36s. 3d. for arming duel between John Huberd, approver, and *Walter* Bokenham, defendant. Here is a small error in the Christian name of the defendant in one or other record, now impossible to put right.

The rarity of notices of these judicial duels, notwithstanding the fulness of the directions laid down in the Old Law Books, has almost raised a doubt if they



ever occurred in England ; now and then a case turns up like this in unexpected places.

Selden, in his "Treatise De Duello," says the records of them are so very rare that, if he forgets not, the least plural number doubled comprehends as many as are reported with ensuing performance.

The earliest recorded has the advantage of being illustrated. It was in the reign of Henry III., and is thus stated by Madox, in his "History of the Exchequer," vol. I., p. 551:—

Walter le Blowberme accused Hamon le Stare of Robbery, alleging they were together at Winchester and there stole clothes and other goods, whereof Hamon had for his share two coats—to wit, one of Irish Cloth and the other a party Coat of Cloth, of Abendon and Burell, of London, and that he, the said Walter, was in fellowship with him in the robbery, and he offereth to prove by his body as the Court should award. Hamon came and denied the whole, and saith that he will defend himself by his body. Whereupon it is awarded that there should be a duel between them. A Duel was struck, and Hamon being vanquished in the combat, was adjudged to be hanged. No Chattels.

The figure of the Duel is drawn at the top of the Membrane. On the right of the picture the Combatants, whose names appear over the head of each, are in the midst of the conflict. Each has a square shield with a circular boss, and a staff with a hammer-like head. Le Stare has just received a crushing blow on the head, he vainly endeavours to parry with his shield. In the centre is a distant view of the gallows, with Le Stare suspended upon them, his name above.

Perhaps the most memorable from the circumstances of the fight was that between the Armourer and his man, who accused him of divers crimes in the 24th of Henry VI. It came off in Smithfield, and so fearful were the Armourer's friends that his courage should fail him that they plied him so much with drink before he entered the lists that when he did he was instantly overcome.

The case of Low and Paramore, in 1571, the last in which the lists were prepared, did not actually come off.

Nailor, the Plaintiff's Champion, went through London about seven in the morning, apparelled in a doublet and galey gascoigne breeches, all of crimson satin, cut and rayed, a hat of black velvet with a feather, and a band before him, drums and fifes playing. The gauntlet that was cast down by Thorn, Defendant's Champion, was borne before him on a sword's point, and his baton, a staff of an ell long, "*made taper wise tipt with horne*" with his shield of hard leather, was borne after him by a "Yeoman of the Queen's Guard."

They were certainly not so uncommon as Selden imagined ; many records have turned up since his day. I met with another instance recently in the Sacrist's Register of Bury St. Edmund's. It is only incidentally referred to, indeed would

never have been recorded at all but for its having led to disputes between the Sacrist and the Cellarer about Jurisdiction.

There was a free tenant of the Cellarer, Ketel by name, dwelling out of the East Gate of Bury, accused of theft, conquered in Duel and hung. Whereupon the Townsmen and the Abbey, and the Sacrist and Cellarer, got into a great dispute, which took much time and trouble to adjust.

The shout of the conqueror over his victim, "criaunt, criaunt," is difficult to translate. In an old tract, printed by Spelman in his Glossary, the marginal note to the approver's oath bids him, By all the ways that thou best may or kanst, "creant" to cry or speak; and on the Great Roll of the Pipe are many fines for "recreancy," where the conquered had, for some cause, escaped "suspension."

In none of the early records I have met with, except that in the Red Paper Book, is it said how the combatants were clad. Altogether the arrangement seems to be in strict accordance to the directions in "Britton" and the other old Lawyers.

At page 49 occurs an early Specimen of English, the form used by the Coroner in taking the abjuration of a Felon who had sought Sanctuary; it is probably of Richard II.'s time, and is almost all of it a translation of the Oath in the Early Statutes, the only important difference being in the description of the felon in the first four lines. Instead of "I am a felon and feloniously have robbed or slain" (after his Confession), the Statutory Oath has "am a robber of Sheep, or any other beast, or a Murderer of one or more, and because I have done many such evils or robberies in this Land, I abjure the Land of Lord Edward, King of, &c."

ABJURATIO FELONUM.

This ze her Ser Corener of our Lord ye Kyng, y^t I. N. S. de B., in ye Schyr of E., am a Feloun, and feloun leche hath robbyd or slayn aft his Confession hay been to y^e Coroner a forn. Wher for I forswer ye Kyngs lond of Inggelond, and I schall haste me to ye Poort I am assygned to wheche ye have zeve me, and I schal nat go owt of y^e hyghweye, and yf I do I wele y^t I be taken azen as a feloun of our Lord ye Kyng, and to ye same place I schal dylygentleeche take my wey, and y^t I schal nat a byde yere but a ebbe and a flood yf I may have my passage in so sehort a tyme, I schal go ev'y day yn to see up to my Kneys assayng for to pass. And yf yt be so I may nat have passage withynne ye tyme of xl daiys, I schal zeelde me azen to Cherche, so help me god and holy doom.

With a lay and ecclesiastical Corporation in a town, no great time could ever elapse without a quarrel about Jurisdiction. The Abbey of St. John's seems to have been peculiarly offensive to the Town, and disputes were of constant recurrence, ending in petitions, suits, pleas, and legal fighting, and sometimes in fighting of another kind.

One of the numerous subjects of dispute was as to the right of the Town Coroner to exercise his Office in the Abbey Lands, and some of these disputes are recorded at pp. 53 and 54. I take one of these entries—

It happened that a certain contention arose between the men of the Abbey and the men of the Town on S^t. John's Green, on S^t. John the Baptist's Day, in the 56th year (of Henry III.) after the ninth hour, and that the former assaulted, wounded, and maltreated the latter, and robbed them of their goods and chattels in the fair. And on the morrow after the said felony and robbery took counsel among themselves to confound the Townsmen, and Richard Banyard, by the direction of the Monks, but with malice aforethought, went to the house of H. de Codenham, Coroner of the County of Essex, and told him that a certain man was dead on S^t. John's Green, slain by the townsmen, and prayed him that he would come and view the dead body. And on this petition, and against the liberties of the town, the s^d H. came on the said Green, and they of the Abbey showed him a certain man dead and stinking, on the Wednesday after, about the 9th hour, and hastened to bury him without making inquisition, and no neighbour of the town had view of him, and forthwith hue and cry was raised through the whole town. The Bailiffs and Coroner hearing this on the morrow, namely, on the Thursday, went upon S^t. John's Green, and caused enquiry to be made about the dead man by next neighbours, namely, by Adam Touteproud, William le Schoder, Richard, son of Roger, and Robert le Bret, and by four Wards of the said town, namely, Lexden, Myland, Grynstede, and West Donyland. Which Jury say on their oaths that they know not, nor are able to learn, that any man was killed on S^t. John's Green, nor of any disorder of the Townsmen. For that they of the Abbey feloniously, and of malice aforethought, sent on the preceding Wednesday to their Gallows at the Beorne, in the early morning, and took a certain thief, hung there the Sunday before, and brought him to the house of Note de Lammale, and there secretly kept him till the coming of the said H. de Codenham after dinner. And the same H. in going towards the Abbey discovered that no one was able to approach the body on account of the stench, and four women carried it to the Church of S^t. Giles, and there caused it to be buried.

It was an ingenious device to circumvent the townsfolk ; but this is not all. We see the Abbot exercising the cherished privilege of the gallows which was at the " Beorne." I presume what are now called Bourn Ponds are near it. Sunday, we learn, too, was the day of execution in the Abbots' Manors.

A few pages further on is an account of the arrest of " Geoffrey Story, Abbot of St. John," for High Treason, in the 6th year of Henry IV., in Lent, together with John Herst, one of his Monks. The Abbot was carried from his chamber to the Moot Hall, being ill at the time, in a chair, by John Cowman, his servant, and John Skot, servant of the Sheriff, and there imprisoned for five weeks, and afterwards taken to the Castle of Nottingham. William Denton, another of the fraternity, was taken to the town prison and there loaded with " great iron chains."

At folio 182 is an entry recording one of those blots in the History of a Country, the burning of a man in the name of religion.

The Martyr was one William Chivelyng, of Colchester, Tailor. The particulars of his heretical opinions are not given. The date is the 7th year of Henry VI. No allusion to it is found in the voluminous annals of Fox, who, however, has the name among those who fled from a persecution in Kent in the year 1416. "What afterwards happened to them," says Fox, "in the Register doth not appear, but like it is, at length they were forced to submit themselves."

It is probable, however, that Chivelyng took refuge for a time at Colchester, only to add some twelve years to his life, and then to die a Martyr's death. The record itself tells all I have been able to find on the subject:—

"Memorandum that on Wednesday, in the Vigil of the Apostles Simon and Jude, in the time of John Beche and Robert Selby, Bailiffs of Colechester, in the 7th year of King Henry VI., one William Chivelyng, of Colechester, Tailor, was condemned for Heresy, before Master David Price, Vicar in Spirituals of the Venerable Lord William Lord Bishop of London, in the Church of St. Nicholas, Colechester. And for that cause he was committed to the custody of the Bailiffs, by whose order he was conveyed to the Moothall, and there detained in prison. Whereupon the said Bailiffs sent to the Chancery of our Lord the King for a certain Writ for the burning of the said William, which same writ follows in these words :—

"Henry by the Grace of God King of England and France and Lord of Ireland, to the Bailiffs of his town of Colchester, Greeting. Whereas Master David Price, Vicar-General of William Lord Bishop of London (the same Bishop being in foreign parts), with assent of Clerks of the same Diocese, by due course of law in that behalf by his definitive sentence pronounced and declared as a manifest heretic William Chivelyng, of Colchester, Tailor, and in accordance with the Canon Law in that behalf decreed and declared, condemned him for heresy, as the before-named Vicar has certified to us in our Chancery and Holy Mother Church, has nothing further to do in the premises. We, therefore, zealous for justice and for the culture of Catholic Faith, desiring to maintain and defend Holy Church and the rights and liberties of the same, and such heresies and errors to root out from our realm of England, and to punish heretics, when convicted, with condign punishment, and mindful that heretics so convicted and condemned as aforesaid according to divine and human law and the canon law instituted and accustomed in that behalf, ought to be burned in the flames of fire. We strictly order and firmly enjoin you that you cause the before-named William, now in your charge, to be committed to the fire in any public and open place, the reason thereof being publicly stated to the people, and him in such fire to be actually burned in detestation of the crime, and for the manifest example of all Christians. And this you shall in no wise omit at your peril. Witness myself at Westminster, the 7th year of our reign."

"By virtue of which Writ of our said Lord the King to the before-named Bailiffs directed, the same William Chivelyng, Heretic, was burned at Colking's Castle before the Tower there, the Thursday next after the feast of All Saints, in the year aforesaid."

I have nothing further to say on this sad record, except to call attention to the Balcerne Gate being called *Colking's Castle* at that time, which seems to point to the fact of its having been so called as far back as Saxon times, as I have before said. King Coel's Pump and King Coel's Kitchen may well date only from

middle-age times, but here we have the Saxon form of “ King Coel ” used in the middle ages without apparently *any notion of its referring to the town celebrity*.

There is in this volume a number of Lists of Burgesses who took the Oath of Allegiance at various times, but the most complete List is that of the time of Henry VIII., made (as its heading states) when Allegiance was sworn to King Henry the Eighth and his heirs, begotten and to be begotten of his right dear beloved Queen Anne (Boleyn). 26th Henry VIII., 1535.

Every parish has its List and every Religious House, and the following was the total :—

		<i>Brought forward</i>	692
St. Runwold.....	30	St. Botolph	165
All Saints	34	„ James.....	128
Trinity.....	27	Grynsted.....	27
Magdalen	24	West Donyland	11
Nicholas	84	Myland	30
Martin.....	63	Lexden	38
Peter	119	House of St. Botolph	9
Mary-at-Wall	58	St. John's	24
Giles.....	112	Holy Cross.....	12
Leonard	141		
<hr/>			<hr/>
<i>Carried forward</i>	692		1136

So that here are the names of the 1136 Burgesses of Colchester in the 26th of Henry VIII., arranged in their several parishes.

Two Wills are extracted from the Court Rolls, and as the originals are lost, they are doubly valuable.

The first is of John Elys, dated 1485. He resided in the parish of St. James, and desired to be buried in the Chancel there before the image of St. James. He devised his house in East Street, with the Rentaries (small tenements in front of the Court Yard of the House, and let for Shops and Tradesmen's dwellings) to his wife Margaret for her life, with remainder to his son John. He then directed that immediately after his decease three images should be made and placed upon the East Gate of Colchester. Of these one was to be St. Helen (the Patron Saint of the Town), another St. Margaret (evidently because that was the name of his wife), and St. John the Baptist (his own name being John).

I have many times heard the most recondite reasons suggested for the figures of particular Saints being selected to adorn some public building, when, if the truth could be ascertained, they were there for as common-place a motive as those on the East Gate.

The other Will is of Matthew Rede, of St. Runwold's, dated 1517. He desires to be buried in the Churchyard of St. Runwold's, and he gives 6s. 8d. to the Convent of St. Botolph's for a dirge and mass of requiem, and to the Prior of the Crossed Friars to say eight masses at "Scala Celi" there, and after other devises and bequests he gives to the prisoners in the Mote hall, and *also to the prisoners in the Castle*, to be indifferently dealt amongst them, 2s. So the Castle was *then* a prison.

There is a Writ addressed to the Bailiffs by the Sheriff of Essex, Humfrey Bohun, in the 33rd year of Henry VI. It is a Writ of Capias to arrest one Thomas Fuller, of Halstead, Weaver, to answer at Westminster to Henry Viscount de Bourchier for unjustly detaining £49. 10s. 4d., and further that as he had fled to Sanctuary in the Bailiffwick of Colechester they had returned *non est inventus* to a previous writ. Therefore the order was as before, to take him if he be found in their Bailiffwick, and have him on a certain day at Westminster ; meantime, every week for five weeks, they were to make public proclamation at the Gate of the Sanctuary for the said Thomas to appear at Westminster on such day. By virtue of which Writ the said Bailiffs, by John Horndon, their (Town) Clerk, and Robert Hoton, Town Serjeant, made proclamation five succeeding weeks at the Gate of the Abbey of St. John according to the form of such Writ. It is not stated whether these continuous proclamations had any effect on Thomas Fuller or not.

But the most interesting matters were the Ordinances made for various trades about the time of Edward the Fourth. I may be able hereafter to fix the date with tolerable certainty, as I am anxious to do on account of some of the facts arising out of them, but they are undated, so that some care and patience will be required to make it out.

These ordinances exhibit the restrictions on trade in no very pleasant light. It seems to be taken for granted that every tradesman would cheat unless every possible obstacle was put in his way ; so fines are heaped on fines, and if these won't prevent there are the stocks, the ducking stool, and the pillory.

The Millers are first dealt with. They were to use none but sealed measures ; they were to have a quart of wheat of every bushel for the grinding, and another if they fetched it. Of malt a pint for grinding and another for fetching. They were neither to change nor water any man's corn, nor to give worse for better. Were to keep no hogs, geese, ducks, nor poultry, except three hens and a cock. For every offence to be fined 3s. 4d., the third time to be judged to the "Pillorie."

The Bakers' Assize is 6d. "highing" and 6d. "lowing" in the price of wheat per quarter. If the farthing loaf was deficient an ounce the fine was 20d., and if an ounce and half 2s. And if he would not bake according to the Assize the pillory was his fate.

The Brewers' Assize was 12d. highing and 12d. lowing in the quarter of malt, always a shilling to a farthing, as when he buys a quarter of malt for 2s., then to sell a gallon of the best ale for two farthings, and to make 48 gallons of a quarter of malt. And so on to 8s., but no further. To send for the ale-taster before he sells any ale. All measures to be sealed, and a quart of ale to be set on the table for a half-penny; fines 12d., 20d., and 3s. 4d., and after two warnings first the ducking stool and then the pillory.

(So that it appears that although this business was not then exclusively in the hands of women, the woman's punishment, the ducking stool, was still retained.)

The Butcher is to have a penny in the shilling of the cost of his meat, and the head and inside and feet of all cattle that "feed and seek not," and the head, offal, and skin of those which seek and feed not, (!) bringing the skin into the market with the flesh. He is to kill no Bull unbaited, no Cow with Calf nor a "bulling," no Sow with Pig nor a "bremming," no Ewe with Lamb nor a "raming." Not to sell corrupt flesh nor to "blow"* any flesh. Fines 1s., 20d., 3s. 4d. And if he sell "festered" flesh the pillory.

The Fisher is to take no excess more than a penny in the shilling, nor to forstall, nor regrade, but set his fish in the open market. Nor to sell unseasonable or "fectife" fish. Fines 1s., 20d., 3s. 4d., and on the fourth offence to be put in stocks in the market-place.

The Cook is to sell both fish and flesh, good and wholesome in seething, roasting, and baking, and not to cook anything twice. Fine for every offence 3s. 4d., the third time the pillory.

The Innholder to have his measures sealed that he sell his ale, wine and provender by; to have a penny over the market price of every bushel; his half-penny bottle of hay shall weigh 7lbs., or three bottles a penny, though a load of hay should be sold for 13s. 4d. His faggot of wood to be a yard of long hand and three shaftmond and a half about. (The shaftmond was an ancient measure from the top of the extended thumb to the outside of the palm of the hand, about six inches.) His penny faggot to be 7 shaftmond about. He was to sell a pot of best ale of three pints for a penny, and if he brews, to sell as any other brewer, but not

* In the neighbourhood of Peterborough I heard they were in the habit now of "blowing" up poultry for sale to this day.

to bake bread for sale. Fines 12d., 20d., and 3s. 4d., and "if he keep any bawdry within him," fine 6s. 8d. And if he will not beware after two warnings then to be put in the pillory and after to forswear the town.

The Tavern Keeper was to take no greater profit than 2d. in the gallon of white or red wine, and of sweet wine 4d. And to sell none till he has sent for the town officers to taste if it be good, wholesome, and *able* wine, and to gauge his vessels and mark their heads, *and to be sworn as to the cost*, and then to sell by sealed measure, and not to make nor "meddle" (mix) any wine himself. Fines 12d., 20d., and 3s. 4d. And if he sell faulty wine, his tavern to be "sealed in," and he "to pay a fine at the Will of the Lord of the Franchise," and after to be judged according to the statute.

The Spicer to have sealed weights and true beam, and not to sell *by horns or aim of hand*; nor by subtilty to deceive the poor commons. His spice to be good and clean *garbelled* (that is, cleared of impurities). Fines as before. Finally to be dealt with according to the statute.

The Weaver to use *no stones*, but sealed weights only, and to sell no man's thrums, linen, or woollen; but every man to have his own. In default, to be "merced" according to the statute.

The Tanner to tan no sheep's, goats', deer, horses, nor hounds' leather, and all he sells to be thorough tanned. Fine 6s. 8d. and forfeiture; and after two warnings, the statute to be enforced.

The Cordwainer to make no shoes nor boots but of neats' or calves' leather, thoroughly tanned and well curried, but not to curry himself. Fine 6s. 8d. and forfeiture. After two warnings, the statute to be enforced.

The White Tawer to taw only sheep's, goats', deer, horses, and hounds' leather; to be made of sufficient stuff. Offenders to be amerced according to the statute.

(These dressed skins with Alum after the old Roman method; successors of the Alutarii.)

The Currier to curry no leather unless it be thoroughly tanned. An officer of the town to see that his stuff is *able* and leather thoroughly curried. Offending, to be amerced according to the statute.

The Almaine Artificer, be he Grocer, Mercer, Smith, Draper, and any other

Craftsman, to sell nor use any weight or measure, unless sealed according to the King's Standard. To be amerced if offending, according to the statute.

These are all the Ordinances made at that time, but another is added in the same hand, and very shortly after; but sufficiently long for a great change to have taken place. The Ordinance is a new one for the Brewers, and Hops are newly introduced into the composition of Beer. It seems to be addressed rather to the Corporation Officer than to the Brewer:—

“Thou owe to make good, due, and diligent serche by them self or their deputies,” seeing alway that “as well the malt as the hoppes be perfect, wholesome and of good odour;” that the malt be of good, sufficient and wholesome corn—that is to say of clean barley and *oats*, or together of barley and *wheat*, not overmuch dried, *not stinking nor full of vermin, called weevils!* and that the hoppes be not stinking nor old. Every brewing, assay is to be made if the bier have sufficient of the hoppes, and that it be enough sodden, and not scalt. It is to be had out of the Brewhouse within eight days after brewing, and the searchers are to see that when a quarter of malt may be sold for 3^s. 4^d., then a barrel of beer called “*double coyte*”^{*} containing 36 gallons, shall be sold for 2^s. 8^d., and when a quarter of malt is 4^s., the barrel of beer to be 3^s. 4^d., and so in like wise the price of every shilling in a quarter of malt must be raised or lessened a farthing a gallon in the beer called “*double coyte*,” and a barrel called single coyte, containing also 36 gallons, must be sold for 2^s.” If any defaults are found, the whole is liable to forfeiture; the searchers’ fee to be a half penny in every barrel of beer.

I have endeavoured to translate these Ordinances into somewhat plainer English than that in which they are written: their ancient garb would have been scarcely sufficiently intelligible.

An entry of a later date than any of the preceding must close my extracts from this volume.

It is a document of unusual character, being a report by the Burgesses in Parliament of their doings in the first Session of Parliament in the first year of Henry VII. The Record on the Rolls of Parliament is much more full, but does not give what took place from day to day as is given here. Details of other proceedings are here found, not there recorded—as, for instance, that on the first day the King, with the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, attended a Mass of the Holy Ghost in the Abbey, whilst the Lord Steward called over the names of the assembled Commons. The Chancellor’s Sermon on the Theme, “*Intende, prospere, procede et regna,*” given at some length in the Rolls, with the curious jumble of references to Agrippa, Titus Livius, Isidorus, St. Ambrose, Ovid’s *Metamorphoses*, and Joshua, is simply

^{*} Perhaps this term survives among the Colchester Brewers. I have not met with it elsewhere.

recorded here as “ a worshipful sermon, in that he showed many worshipful points forth.”

The Act of Resumption of the Duchies of Lancaster and Cornwall, and other important doings, are not noticed, still it is a very remarkable document, and evidently genuine.

These be the acts of the Parlement holden at Westminster the first year of King Herry the VIIth, than Burgesses of the Parlement, Thomas Cristemasse and John Virtue.

To the pleasure of allmighty God the welth, prosperity, and suertie of this Reame of Englonde to the singuler comforth of all the King's subjets of the same, and in avoiding of all ambiguities and questions, be it ordeyned, established, and enacted by auctorite of this present Parlement, that thenheritans of the Corons of the Realmes of Englonde and of France, with all the p^reminence and dignite Royall to the same pertaining, and all other seignuries of the King belonging beyonde the See, w^t thappurtenances thereto in any wise due or pteynning be, rest, remayne, and abide in the most Roiall persone of our nowe Soveraine lord Kyng Herry the VIIth and in the heires of his body lawfully coming, perpetually w^t the grace of god so to endure. And in noon other.

Ye shall swere that ye from hensforth, contre to the lawe of this lond, shall not receyve, aid, nor comfort eny persone oppynly accursed, murtherer, felon, or outlawed for felony, by you knowen so to be. Nor eny suche persone lett to be attached or taken therefore by the ordre of the lawe of this lond contrarie to the same lawe. Nor reteyne any man by indenture, promyse, or othe, nor geve livery, signe, or tokyn, contrarie to the seid lawe, but whan ye shall doo actual servyce to the Kyng by his high comaundement. Nor eny embracerie, riott, or eny unlawfull mayntenaunce or assemble, make, doo, or cause to be doon, or made, or assent thereto; nor let, or chuse to be letted, the execution of eny of the Kyng's Writts or Precepts directed to such lawfull ministres and officers as owght to have execution of the same. Nor lett eny man to baille or maynprice, knowyng or demyng hym to be a felon, uppon your honoure and wurshipp, so god you helpe and his saints.

Mast Baillies and all my Mast's accordyng unto our Deute we went to Westmynest', the vijth day of Novembre, the yere abovesaid, by ix of the clocke, and there we gave atendawmse upon the Kyng's grace, withyn that same oure it pleased the Kyng's high grace and all his lords, spiritualæ and temporalæ, that was there present, soo came downe oute of the parlement chamber into the cherche of Westmynst', and there was seid the masse of the holy gost in that while that masse wasse a seyng cam my lord Stuard into the parlement chamber and there comaundid a proclamacon for the Kyng that every Knyght that war chosyn for the sheris, and ev'y fit citizener for the cities, and every Burgesses for borowes, that they shuld aunswer be their names. And so they were callyd and resseyved in to the parlement chamber. And son after that doon it pleasid the Kyng's grace, and all his lords, spirituall and temporall, cam into the parlement chamber and there

	*	*	.*	*
ryall estat, and all his lords, spiritualls and temporalls, and all his Judgges	*	*	*	*
Kyng's grace for to comaund my Lord Chaunseler for to show the propo	*	*	*	*
worshipfull sermon in that he showed many worshipfull poynts forth	*	*	*	this lond,
that don the Kyng comaunded my lord Chaunseler that he shuld	*	*	*	*

all Knyghts, settysens and burgesses, that they shuld semble to the parlement house.

The vijth day of November, be ix of the clocke, so for to prosede unto a lection for to chose a spekir, so the lection gave hir voyce to Thomas lovell, a gentilman, of lyncolnes Inne, that doon it pleased the Knyghts that wer ther present for to ryse from ther sets, and so for to goo to that place

wher as the speker stode, and brought hym and set hym in his sete, that doon ther he thanked all the maistrs of the plase, than it plesed the recorder of london for to showe the custume of the plase : this was his seying, Maister Spekir and all my Maisters, ther hath been an order in this place in tymes passed that ye shuld comaund a certain of Knyghts and other gentilmen, suche as it plesith you, to the nombre of xxiiij, and they to goo togedir unto my lord chaunseler. And ther for to shew unto his lordship that they have doon the Kyng's comaundement in the chosyng of our speker, desyryng his lordship if that he wold show it unto the King's grace, and whan it plesith the King to comaunde us whan we shall present hym afore his high grace, yt pleased the Kyng that we shuld present him upon the ix day of November, that same day at x of the cloke, sembled maister speker and all the Knyghts, sittonners, and Burgesses in the parlement howse, and so departed into the parlement chamber before the Kyng's Grace, and all his lords, spirituall and temporall, and all his judges, and so presented our speker before the Kyng's grace, and all his lords, spirituall and temporall.

The xth day of Novembr ther was red a byll for the subcedy betwen the Kyng and the merchaunts, whiche bylle was examined amonges us and other divers maters, and none conclusion.

The xjth day of Novembr the same byll was red afore us, and ther passed as an Awete, and that doon, Maister Speker comaunded iiij gentylnen for to ber it to my lord chaunseler, desyryng his lordship that he wold certifie the Kyng's good grace with all.

The xijth day of Novembr ther cam a byll from the Quene Elizabeth that was & so red for soche certeyn desyres for Castells and for other possessions that she was possed of in Kyng Edward's day. And so red.

The xij day of Novembr it was sonday.

The xiiij day ther wer arguments, for such came to non conclusion.

The xvth day of Novembr ther passed a byll with Master Hawte for to restore hym unto his londs the whiche he was ataynte be awete of parlement in Kyng Richard's day.

The xvj day of Novembr ther war qwestions moved for the comenwel^e of thise false persouns which hath reyned many dayes amongst us, and non conclusion.

The xvij day of Novembr ther cam in the Conteys of Warwik, and ther she shewed a piteous compleynt. And therupon she delyvered a Byll.

The xviii day of Novembr it pleased the Kyng's good Grace to send us downe a byll that he
 * * * * * with his lords be advyse of an othe that no man shulde support
 * * * * * lawful mayntenance by the mene of the lyveries
 gevyng neyther be non other menes.

The xix day Sir John Wynkefeld brought in a byll of such wronges and hurts as he felt hym agrieved of, and so delyvered a byll.

The xx day it was sonday.

The xxj day of Novembr ther passyd a byll as an Awete for to restore blyssed Kyng Harry and Qwene Marget and prynce Edward upon such a Teynte as was shewed by Awete of Parlement be King Edward the iiijth, also ther passed a byll for my lady the Kyng's moder, for to restore her of such possessyons as she was a teynt of by the parlement of Kyng Richard, Kyng in Ded and nat of ryght ; also ther passed a byll the same daye as an Awete Sir James Loterell to restore hym of his londs suche as he was a teynt of, and all his heyres be awete of parliament by Kyng Edward the first yer of his reyne.

The xxij day of Novembr ther cam in a byll by Duke of Bedford of compleynte upon a Teynte, the whiche passed by an Awete of Parlement in Kyng Edward's dayes. The whiche that is restored of us that aute had never be made.

The xxiiij day of Novembr ther cam in a Byll of Compleynt by the Busshop of Ely and the Busshop of Salusbury and by the Byshop o' Exeetyr, they desyred to be restored of that they wer a teynt off be Awete of Parliament in Kyng Richard's dayes. And so passed as an Aucte, and so restored.

The xxiiij day of Novembr Knyghts and Sqwyeres and other Gentyllmen and yemen of the Crowne, and with odir yomen, to the nombre of vj skore, they wer restored aftir the form as is a bove rehirsed.

The xxv day of Novembr ther wer red certeyn bylls, and ther upon wer arguments and nothing passed that day.

The xxvj day of Novembr we gave atendaunce in the Cheker for to dysecharge our Fe Farme with Appylton, and with Tynt and Hynkeley. And the Chamberlyn was ther present.

The xxvij day it was Sonday.

The xxviii day of November ther was a comenyng for the Comen well of all the lond for to se a remedy for this fals mony which that reyneth in the lond disseyvyng of the Kyng's leige people. And so continued the xxix.

The xxx day of Novemb cam down the Clarke of the Crowne by the Comaundement of the Kyng, and his lords spirituall and temporall, with xij bylls, and so reseyved and red that day.

The fyrst day of December ther passed a byll with Th: Thorp ageyn John Colte for such certeyn londs that he hath held of his be his wronge, and so he was restored.

The secunde day of Decembr ther passed a byll with Sir Th Drylond as an aucte for certeyn londs and tents that he was a teynt of be aucte of parlement in Kyng Edward's dayes, and therupon he was restored. The same daye ther passed a byll with Sir John Weynescotte as an Awete for to restore hym a geyn un to hys londs.

The iiij^d day of Decembr ther came down ix bylls be the Kyng's comaund * * * his lords, spirituall and temporall, delyvered unto us by the Clerke of the * * * so they wer red for that day with odir maters that war reserved.

The iiij day it was sonday.

The v day of Decembr ther passed a byll with Sir John Gyfford as an awete for to restore him of his londs that he was a teint of be aucte of parlement.

The vj day of Decembr ther passed a byll as an awete w^t therle of Oxynforde and his brodir George Fear, and his brother Th. Fear, to restore them of all ther londs which as they wer a teynt of be aucte of Parlement in Kyng Edward's days. The same day passed a byll as an aucte with Lord Wells to restore hym to all his londs that he was a teint of be aucte of parliament. The same day passed a byll as an Aucte with my lord Hungerford to restore hym ageyn to hys londs that he was a teint of be aucte of Parliament in Kyng Edward's days.

The vij day of Decembr ther passed a byll with Foster as an aucte for to restore hym of all his londs that he was a teynt be aucte of Parliament. The same day ther passed a byll with Maister Wilby, as it is abovesaid. The same day ther passed a byll with maister Tressom after the same maner of forme.

The viij day it was our lady day.

The ix day cam in the byll of a Teynt and sore was questioned with. The same day cam in a byll with therle of Stafford and w^t his modir my lady of Bedford, savyng hym the Tytyll of his londs and his moder Joyntour, and so was red the same day.

The x day ther passed the same byll of a Teynt; the same day passed a byll as aucte with therle of Stafford and with my lady his moder to restitution of ther londs; the same day ther passed another byll that ther shuld no man take non Action ageynst non of them that had eny patent, nor no byll assyned, nor non that was pved that had occupied in his own wronge in tyme the parlement be ended.

Also the same day ther passed a byll for the court of request that it is a nulled. And it shall be occupied no more. The same day it pleased the Kyng and all his lords for to send for Maister Speker and all the howse in to the parliament chambir. And we cam there and wayted upon his grace. So it pleased his grace to comaunde my lord Chaunseler to proroge his high Court of Parliament into the xxiiij day of Januarie.

Thes be the Gentilmen that be a Teynt :—

RICHARD LATE DUKE OF GLOWCET,
JOHN LATE DUKE OF NORFF,
THOMAS LATE YERLE OF SURR,
FRAUNCOYS LOVELL,
WATER DORIES (DEVEREUX),
JOHN LORD SOWCH,
ROBERD HARYNGTON,

RICHARD CHARLTON,
RICHARD RATCLYFFE,
WILLM BARKELEY OF EWLY,
ROBERD BRAKENBURY,

THOMAS PYLKYNGTON,
ROBERT MYDYLTON,

JAMES HARYNGTON,
WATER HOPTON,

WILLM CATTYSBY,
ROGER WAKE,
WILLM SAPCOTT,
HUMFREY STAEFORD,
WILLM CLERK,
GEFFREY ST. GERMAIONS,
ROBT. WATKYNNE,
horowd of armes,

RICHARD REVELL,
of Derby Shire,
THOMAS PULTER OF SURR,
JOHN WALSHE odwise,
called HASTYNGS,

JOHN BUC,
JOHN KENDALL,
late Secretary,
WILLM BRAMPTON.

“ Andrew Ratt ” is omitted from this list.

Of the other Books used for Books of Entry the next in point of date is the Examination Book No. 4, known also as the “ Liber Ordinacionum,” from the Ordinances of the 9th of Elizabeth about the Fishery being in it. I have paged this Book, and given a full note of the contents in the Repertory. Examinations occupy the first part of the book to p. 81 ; then follow Orders for Brewing of Beer, and a variety of other local matters (including the Bottle Maker’s Oath) from the 4th to the 10th Elizabeth. Many of them merit extended notice. The Fishery Ordinances are at page 109.

The next Book used for Entries is the Monday Court Book, 1571 to 1575 (A. 3.) It contains the Hundred Court Minutes for that period, Assembly Minutes from 1573 to 1576, and a carefully prepared list of Refugees in 1573, with the number in each family, and in what parishes they had fixed themselves. There are descendants of these persons still residing in Colchester. There are notices of early Contributions for Poor Relief and the disbursements, and a Town Rental, undated, but about 1576.

The next Book used for a like purpose is the Thursday Court Book, 1571 to 1576 (C. 1), which contains a variety of Privy Council Letters and Orders, 19th to 28th Elizabeth, about Pirates and Piracy, Musters, Killing Meat in Lent, and Orders about Corn. A careful note of them is given in the Repertory.

The last volume so used is the Examination Book for 1588 to 1600 (C. 8), which contains transcripts of Proclamations, 1581 to 1583, about drying fish, prices of wine, Jesuit Traitors, and for keeping term at Hertford instead of London, on account of the Plague, 8th October, 24th of Elizabeth, and the Order of Justices fixing the rate of Wages in 1583—another document that should be printed.

Of the other Manuscript Books I have already alluded to one, Mr. Strutt's careful transcripts of many of the Colchester Charters, which should be completed, and would form a starting point for a documentary History of Colchester. The great defect in Morant and the other Histories of Colchester is the absence of authentic documents.

There is another Manuscript Volume of some interest, containing, amongst other things, a daily record of the great contests about the Elections before the Parliamentary Committees in 1706 and 1713.

I have thus endeavoured to give the Committee some idea of the character and value of the various documents in the Record Room, and while I congratulate them on having been enabled to put them in a place of safety, I hope I may be permitted to state that they would do a very acceptable service by urging the Corporation to make a selection of the documents for publication.

I am,

GENTLEMEN,

Your very obedient Servant,

HENRY HARROD, F.S.A.

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C A L E N D A R

OF

The Court Rolls

OF THE

BOROUGH OF COLCHESTER,

WITH

Lists of Bailiffs and Mayors

TO THE PRESENT YEAR.

HENRY HARROD, F.S.A.,

1865.

Colchester:

PRINTED AT THE "ESSEX AND WEST SUFFOLK GAZETTE" OFFICE, HIGH STREET.

The Bailiffs,

From the earliest period to the substitution of Mayors in the year 1635—compiled from the Court Rolls, the Red Parchment Book, the Red Paper Book, &c.

HENRY III.

39th—1255, Ralph fil: Presbiteri and Simon le Eskyrmesoure.

56th—1272, Nicholas Medicus and William Aurifaber.

Red Paper Book, p. liij.

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5th—1277, Richard de Berholt and Geoffrey Godyear.
Red Paper Book, Index.

6th—1278, Sayer fil: Ralph and Richard Pruwet.
Red Parchment Book, fo. 1.

10th—1282, . . . fil: Willi and Adam de Castro.
Red Parchment Book, fo. 223.

EDWARD II.

4th and 5th—1310, Warin fil: Willi and Sayher de Doniland.

5th and 6th—1311, Joseph Clerk and William de Saiera.

13th and 14th—1319, Anulph de Mounteney and John de Tendingr.

EDWARD III.

1st and 2nd—1327, Ralph Knyght and Edward Chaloner.

2nd and 3rd—1328, Joseph Elianore and Alan de la Neylonde.

3rd and 4th—1329, Warin fil: William and Joseph Elianore.

4th and 5th—1330, " " "

5th and 6th—1331, " " "

6th and 7th—1332, " and Matthew fil: Robert.

7th and 8th—1333, " and Ralph Ode.

8th and 9th—1334, Warin fil: William and Ralph Ode.

9th and 10th—1335, John Jurdan and Robert Belch.

10th and 11th—1336, John Finch and John Caperon.

11th and 12th—1337, Matthew fil: Robert and John Fynch.

12th and 13th—1338, Ralph Ode and Joseph Elianore.

13th and 14th—1339, Warin atte Welle and Robert le Clerk.

14th and 15th—1340, Robert Clerk and William Hadlegh.

15th and 16th—1341, John Fordham and William Buk.

16th and 17th—1342, Joseph Elianore and John Fordham.

17th and 18th—1343, Robert Clerk and Roger Belch.

18th and 19th—1344, John Warin, senior, and William Hadlegh.

19th and 20th—1345, William Hadlegh and Thomas de Dedham.

20th and 21st—1346, Thomas de Dedham and William Hadlegh.

21st and 22nd—1347, " " "

22nd and 23rd—1348, William Hadlegh and Roger Belch.

23rd and 24th—1349, Matthew fil: Robert and Robert Fraunceys.

24th and 25th—1350, John Atte Forde and Adam de Colne.

25th and 26th—1351, Matthew fil: Robert and William Fermery.

26th and 27th—1352, Adam de Colne and Robert atte Ford.

27th and 28th—1353, John Dyer and Richard Bradeway.

28th and 29th—1354, John Boyn and Clement le Dyer.

29th and 30th—1355, Adam atte Welle and Richard le Dyer.

30th and 31st—1356, John atte Ford and John Alleyn.

31st and 32nd—1357, " and Richard Dyer.

32nd and 33rd—1358, Adam Warin and " "

EDWARD III.

33rd and 34th—1359, John atte Ford and John le Dyer.

34th and 35th—1360, Richard Dyer and William Reyne.

35th and 36th—1361, Robert atte Ford and " "

36th and 37th—1362, Robert atte Ford and George Fordham.

37th and 38th—1363, Alexius Cogger and William Reyne.

38th and 39th—1364, John atte Ford and " "

39th and 40th—1365, Robert atte Ford and William Bosse.

40th and 41st—1366, John atte Ford and Alexius Cogger.

41st and 42nd—1367, " " "

42nd and 43rd—1368, Richard Drory and John Beek.

43rd and 44th—1369, Robert atte Ford and William Mate.

44th and 45th—1370, " and John Lucas.

45th and 46th—1371, " " "

46th and 47th—1372, Alexius Cogger and William Cristemasse.

47th and 48th—1373, William Reyne and John Clerk.

48th and 49th—1374, John atte Forde and John Pebemersh.

49th and 50th—1375, William Reyne and Alexander Pod.

RICHARD II.

50th and 1st—1376, Alexius Cogger and Stephen Baron.

1st and 2nd—1377, William Reyne and John Beek.

2nd and 3rd—1378, Alexius Cogger and Geoffrey Dawe.

3rd and 4th—1379, Robert atte Ford and Stephen Baron.

4th and 5th—1380, Alexius Cogger and Ralph Algar.

5th and 6th—1381, Thomas Fraunceys and Thomas Clerk.

6th and 7th—1382, Simon Fordham and John Christian.

7th and 8th—1383, Thomas Fraunceys and Ralph Algar.

8th and 9th—1384, Alexius Cogger and John Cristion.

9th and 10th—1385, Ralph Algar and William Penne.

10th and 11th—1386, Simon Fordham and John Cristion.

11th and 12th—1387, Thomas Fraunceys and John Saburgh.

12th and 13th—1388, Ralph Algar and Stephen Baroun.

13th and 14th—1389, Thomas Fraunceys and Alexius Cogger.

14th and 15th—1390, Simon Fordham and John Cristion.

15th and 16th—1391, William Reyne and John Seburgh.

16th and 17th—1392, Thomas Fraunceys and John Cristion.

17th and 18th—1393, Simon Fordham and Ralph Algar.

18th and 19th—1394, John Seburgh and Thomas Clerk.

19th and 20th—1395, Simon Fordham and John Dyer.

20th and 21st—1396, John Cristion and John Seburgh.

21st and 22nd—1397, John Dyer, Merchant, and William Mate.

22nd and 23rd—1398, Thomas Godestone and Thomas Fraunceys.

HENRY IV.

1st—1399, John Seburgh and John atte Ford.

2nd—1400, Thomas Fraunceys and Stephen Flyspe.

BAILIFFS—*continued.*

HENRY IV.

- 3rd—1401, Thomas Godestone and John Seburgh.
- 4th—1402, John atte Ford and Stephen Neggmere.
- 5th—1403, Thomas Fraunceys and John Pod.
- 6th—1404, Thomas Godeston and John Seburgh.
- 7th—1405, John Ford and John Dyer.
- 8th—1406, Thomas Godeston and Henry Gosse.
- 9th—1407, Thomas Fraunceys and John Pod.
- 10th—1408, John Dyer and William Mate.
- 11th—1409, Thomas Fraunceys and John Pod.
- 12th—1410, John atte Ford and William Mate.
- 13th—1411, Thomas Godeston and John Dyer.

HENRY V.

- 14th and 1st—1412, Thomas Fraunceys and John atte Ford.
- 1st and 2nd—1413, Thomas Godston and William Mate.
- 2nd and 3rd—1414, Thomas Fraunceys and John Forde.
- 3rd and 4th—1415, Thomas Godston and John Kymberle.
- 4th and 5th—1416, John Forde and William Maate.
- 5th and 6th—1417, Thomas Godston and William Notynggham.
- 6th and 7th—1418, John Forde and Augustine Boncfaunt.
- 7th and 8th—1419, Thomas Godston and William Notynggham.
- 8th and 9th—1420, John Kymberle and William Maate.
- 9th and 10th—1421, Thomas Godston and Henry Bosse.

HENRY VI.

- 1st and 2nd—1422, William Notynggham and John Sumpter.
- 2nd and 3rd—1423,
- 3rd and 4th—1424, John Sumpter and Henry Bosse.
- 4th and 5th—1425, Thomas Godston and John Kymberle.
- 5th and 6th—1426, Henry Bosse and William Notynggham.
- 6th and 7th—1427, Simon Mate and Thomas Oskyn.
- 7th and 8th—1428, John Beche and Robert Selby.
- 8th and 9th—1429, Thomas Godston and John Beche.
- 9th and 10th—1430, Henry Bosse and John Trewe.
- 10th and 11th—1431, John Beche and Robert Priour.
- 11th and 12th—1432, Henry Bosse and John Steveno.
- 12th and 13th—1433, John Beche and Robert Priour.
- 13th and 14th—1434, Simon Mate and Thomas Oskyn.
- 14th and 15th—1435, Robert Selby and Walter Bonefey.
- 15th and 16th—1436, John Trewe and John Rouge.
- 16th and 17th—1437, John Beche and Walter Bonefey.
- 17th and 18th—1438, Thomas Oskin and Robert Silby.
- 18th and 19th—1439, Walter Bonefey and John Ode.
- 19th and 20th—1440, John Beche and Robert Priour.
- 20th and 21st—1441, John Trewe and John Rouge.
- 21st and 22nd—1442, John Beche and Nicholas Peeke.
- 22nd and 23rd—1443, John Rouge and Thomas Cent.
- 23rd and 24th—1444, John Beche and Nicholas Peeke.
- 24th and 25th—1445, Thomas Oskyn and Thomas Atte Woode.
- 25th and 26th—1446, Robert Silby and Roger Wyke.
- 26th and 27th—1447, John Beche and John Rouge.
- 27th and 28th—1448, Robert Silby and Roger Wyke.
- 28th and 29th—1449, Nicholas Peeke and Thomas atte Wode.
- 29th and 30th—1450, William Leeche and William Saxe.
- 30th and 31st—1451, John Foorde and John Baker.

HENRY VI.

- 31st and 32nd—1452, Thomas atte Wode and William Saxe.
- 32nd and 33rd—1453, John Foorde and William Petteworth.
- 33rd and 34th—1454, William Forde and John Sayer.
- 34th and 35th—1455, William Saxe and Seman You.
- 35th and 36th—1456, John Foorde and John Beche.
- 36th and 37th—1457, William Saxe and John Sayer.
- 37th and 38th—1458, John Foorde and Matthew Drury.
- 38th and 39th—1459, William Petteworth and William Ford.

EDWARD IV.

- 39th and 1st—1460, Matthew Drury and John Baroun.
- 1st and 2nd—1461, William Forde and John Seman.
- 2nd and 3rd—1462, John Forde and John Water.
- 3rd and 4th—1463, William Smyth and John Bishop.
- 4th and 5th—1464, John Wright and William Rede.
- 5th and 6th—1465, William Forde and William Smyth.
- 6th and 7th—1466, John Wright and John Forde.
- 7th and 8th—1467, Richard Welde and Richard Parker.
- 8th and 9th—1468, William Forde and John Bishop.
- 9th and 10th—1469, Thomas Smyth and John Boteler.
- 10th and 11th—1470, William Forde and John Wryght.
- 11th and 12th—1471, John Boteler and Richard Markes.
- 12th and 13th—1472, Thomas Smyth and William Colchester.
- 13th and 14th—1473, William Forde and John Boteler.
- 14th and 15th—1474, William Colchestre and Thomas Cristemasse.
- 15th and 16th—1475, John Bishop and John Boteler.
- 16th and 17th—1476, Thomas Smyth and Thomas Cristemasse.
- 17th and 18th—1477, William Smyth and William Colchestre.
- 18th and 19th—1478, William Forde and John Bishop.
- 19th and 20th—1479, Richard Markes and Thomas Smythe.
- 20th and 21st—1480, William Smyth, and Thomas Stamp, who died,
John Gamday elected.

- 21st and 22nd—1481, John Gamday and Thomas Jopson.

RICHARD III.

- 22nd and 1st—1482, John Bishop and Thomas Cristemasse.
- 1st and 2nd—1483, William Forde and William Smyth.
- 2nd and 3rd—1484, Thomas Cristemesse and Richard Plomer.

HENRY VII.

- 1st and 2nd—1485, Thomas Jopson and John Upcher.
- 2nd and 3rd—1486, Richard Merkes and Thomas Cristemasse.
- 3rd and 4th—1487, Thomas Jopson, and Richard Hervey, who
died, succeeded by Richard Plomer.
- 4th and 5th—1488, Richard Heynes and Richard Halke.
- 5th and 6th—1489, John Upchare and Richard Barker.
- 6th and 7th—1490, Thomas Jopson and John Bardfeld.
- 7th and 8th—1491, Thomas Cristemas, senior, and Nicholas Clere.
- 8th and 9th—1492, John Upchare and John Bardfeld.
- 9th and 10th—1493, Richard Markes and Thomas Cristemas.
- 10th and 11th—1494, Richard Heynes and Richard Barker.
- 11th and 12th—1495, Thomas Cristemes, senior, and John Thurske.
- 12th and 13th—1496, Richard Heynes and Richard Barker.
- 13th and 14th—1497, Thomas Cristmas, senior, and Thomas Crist-
mas, junior.
- 14th and 15th—1498, John Swayn and John Breton

BAILIFFS—*continued.*

HENRY VII.

- 15th and 16th—1499, Thomas Cristemas, senior, and Richard Barker,
who died in July, and Thomas Jopson elected.
16th and 17th—1500, Thomas Cristemas, junior, and John Swayn.
17th and 18th—1501, Robert Cowbregge and John John.
18th and 19th—1502, John Swayn and Robert Byest.
19th and 20th—1503, Thomas Cristemas and John Maykyn.
20th and 21st—1504, John Swayn and Richard Pakke.
21st and 22nd—1505, John Berdefeld and William Benyghte.
22nd and 23rd—1506, Thomas Cristemas and John Swayn.
23rd and 24th—1507, Robert Cowbregge and William Benyght.

HENRY VIII,

- 24th and 1st—1508. " " "
1st and 2nd—1509, Thomas Cristemas and John Swayn.
2nd and 3rd—1510, John Maykyn and Richard Pakke.
3rd and 4th—1511, John Swayn and John Reynold.
4th and 5th—1512, John Smalpeece and John Bryan.
5th and 6th—1513, John Swayn and John Clere.
6th and 7th—1514, John Smalpeece and John Colle.
7th and 8th—1515, Thomas Cristemas and John Reygnold.
8th and 9th—1516, John Maykyn and John Cristemas.
9th and 10th—1517, Thomas Cristemas and John Coggyshale.
10th and 11th—1518, John Clere and John Colle.
11th and 12th—1519, Thomas Cristmas and William Debenham.
12th and 13th—1520, John Clere and John Colle.
13th and 14th—1521, Ambrose Lowthe and William Jopson.
14th and 15th—1522, John Bradman and Thomas Flyngaunt.
15th and 16th—1523, John Maykyn and John Colle.
16th and 17th—1524, John Clere and John Coggeshale.
17th and 18th—1525, John Cristinas and Christopher Hamonde.
18th and 19th—1526, Ambrose Lowthe and John Neve.
19th and 20th—1527, Thomas Flyngaunts and John Smalpeece.
20th and 21st—1528, John Maykyn and John Coksull.
21st and 22nd—1529, John Coll and William Beket.
22nd and 23rd—1530, Ambrose Lowthe and John Neve.
23rd and 24th—1531, John Cristemas and John Maykyn.
24th and 25th—1532, John Clere and Thomas Coke.
25th and 26th—1533, Thomas Flyngaunts and John Smalpeece.
26th and 27th—1534, John Coole and William Beket.
27th and 28th—1535, John Crystemas and John Neve.
28th and 29th—1536, John Clere and Thomas Flyngaunts.
29th and 30th—1537, Robert Brown and William Thursteyn.
30th and 31st—1538, John Crystemas and Thomas Cokke.
31st and 32nd—1539, John Neve and Robert Leche.
32nd and 33rd—1540, Augustine Beriff and George Seyer.
33rd and 34th—1541, Benjamin Clere and Robert Browne.
34th and 35th—1542, Thomas Cocke and William Buxton.
35th and 36th—1543, William Brown, senior, and Robert Flingaunt.
36th and 37th—1544, Benjamin Clere and Augustine Beriff.
37th and 38th—1545, Robert Leche and Thomas Reve.

EDWARD VI.

- 38th and 1st—1546, George Seyer and Robert Browne, junior.
1st and 2nd—1547, John Cristmas and John Beste.
2nd and 3rd—1548, Benjamin Clere and Robert Flyngaunt.

EDWARD VI.

- 3rd and 4th—1549, Robert Leche and Thomas Dydney.
4th and 5th—1550, John Beriff and John Stone.
5th and 6th—1551, John Beste and William Motte.
MARY.
6th and 1st—1552, George Seyer and Robert Maynard.
1st and 2nd—1553, Benjamin Clere and John Maynard.
PHILIP AND MARY.
1st and 2nd—1554, John Beriff and John Dibney.
2nd and 3rd—1555, George Seyer and William Strachie.
3rd and 4th—1556, Robert Browne and Robert Maynard.
4th and 5th—1557, John Beste and John Maynard.
5th and 6th—1558, Benjamin Clere and William Mott.
ELIZABETH.
1st and 2nd—1559, George Seyer and John Beast.
2nd and 3rd—1560, Robert Brown and Robert Northen.
3rd and 4th—1561, John Maynerd and Robert Myddelton.
4th and 5th—1562, Benjamin Clere and Robert Lambe.
5th and 6th—1563, George Sayer and John Beaste.
6th and 7th—1564, Robert Myddleton and Richard Northey.
7th and 8th—1565, Benjamin Clere and Nicholas Clere.
8th and 9th—1566, John Maynard and Robert Northen.
9th and 10th—1567, George Sayer and John Beast.
10th and 11th—1568, Robert Myddleton and Robert Lamberd.
11th and 12th—1569, Robert Northen and Richard Northey.
12th and 13th—1570, Benjamin Clere and John Fowle.
13th and 14th—1571, John Beast and Thomas Turner.
14th and 15th—1572, Robert Lambert and Thomas Lawrence.
15th and 16th—1573, John Pye and William Symson.
16th and 17th—1574, Thomas Turnour and Richard Thurston.
17th and 18th—1575, Benjamin Clere and Robert Mott.
18th and 19th—1576, Robert Lambert and Thomas Lawrence.
19th and 20th—1577, John Pye and John Hunwyck.
20th and 21st—1578, Richard Thurston, and Nicholas Clere, who died,
and William Turnour elected.
21st and 22nd—1579, Robert Mott and Thomas Cock.
22nd and 23rd—1580, Thomas Lawrence and Richard Lambert.
23rd and 24th—1581, Robert Lambert and John Pye.
24th and 25th—1582, John Hunwyck and John Byrde.
25th and 26th—1583, William Turnour and Robert Byrde.
26th and 27th—1584, Robert Mott and Thomas Cock.
27th and 28th—1585, Thomas Lawrence and Richard Lambert.
28th and 29th—1586, John Pye and William Carnesbie.
29th and 30th—1587, John Byrde and Thomas Barlowe.
30th and 31st—1588, Robert Bird and Martin Bessell.
31st and 32nd—1589, Robert Mott and Thomas Cocke.
32nd and 33rd—1590, John Pye and Thomas Reynolde.
33rd and 34th—1591, Thomas Lawrence and Ralph Northey.
34th and 35th—1592, Thomas Haselwoode and William Dibney.
35th and 36th—1593, John Hunwick and John Byrde.
36th and 37th—1594, Robert Mott and Martin Bessell.
37th and 38th—1595, Thomas Haselwood and Henry Osborne.
38th and 39th—1596, Ralph Northey and Thomas Ingram.
39th and 40th—1597, Thomas Raynolde and William Turner.

BAILIFFS—*continued.*

ELIZABETH.

40th and 41st—1598, Richard Synmell and Robert Wade.
 41st and 42nd—1599, Robert Motte and Thomas Heckforde.
 42nd and 43rd—1600, Martin Bessell and Henry Osborne.
 43rd and 44th—1601, John Birde and Ralph Northey.

JAMES I.

44th and 1st—1602, William Turner and Robert Wade.
 1st and 2nd—1603, Thomas Haselwood and Richard Symnoll.
 2nd and 3rd—1604, Martin Bessell and Thomas Heckford.
 3rd and 4th—1605, Henry Osborne and Nicholas Clerc.
 4th and 5th—1606, John Bird and Ralph Northey.
 5th and 6th—1607, Thomas Haselwood and William Mott.
 6th and 7th—1608, „ and Thomas Thurston.
 7th and 8th—1609, Robert Wade and John Eldred.
 8th and 9th—1610, Martin Bessell and Nicholas Clerc.
 9th and 10th—1611, Thomas Heckford and William Turner.
 10th and 11th—1612, Henry Osborne and Robert Talcott.
 11th and 12th—1613, Thomas Thurston and John Cox.
 12th and 13th—1614, William Turner and William Mott.
 13th and 14th—1615, Thomas Haselwood and John Marshall.
 14th and 15th—1616, Thomas Thurston and William Hall.

JAMES I.

15th and 16th—1617, John Cox and Henry Barrington.
 16th and 17th—1618, William Turner and Robert Talcott.
 17th and 18th—1619, Martin Bessell and John Marshall.
 18th and 19th—1620, Thomas Heckford and John Norton.
 19th and 20th—1621, William Mott and Thomas Thurston.
 20th and 21st—1622, Robert Talcott and John Cox.
 21st and 22nd—1623, John Eldred and Geoffrey Langley.
 22nd and 23rd—1624, John Marshall and John Norton.

CHARLES I.

1st and 2nd—1625, Sigismund Sewell and Daniel Cole.
 2nd and 3rd—1626, Robert Talcott and John Badcock.
 3rd and 4th—1627, William Mott and Francis Burrowes.
 4th and 5th—1628, Daniel Cole and William Johnson.
 5th and 6th—1629, John Marshall and Henry Barrington.
 6th and 7th—1630, John Norton and Thomas Wade.
 7th and 8th—1631, Robert Talcott and Sigismund Sewell.
 8th and 9th—1632, John Badcock and Robert Buxton.
 9th and 10th—1633, Thomas Wade and John Langley.
 10th and 11th—1634, Daniel Cole and Ralph Harrison.

Mayors.

A List of the Mayors taken from the Assembly Books of the Corporation :—

1635, Daniel Cole,—sworn	July 22.	1656, John Vickers	September 30.
1636, Robert Buxton	October 25.	1657, Nicholas Beason	October 6.
1637, Henry Barrington	December 12.	1658, Henry Barrington	October 5.
1638, John Firlie	October 3.	1659, John Radhams	July 20.
1639, John Langley	October 17.	1659, Thos. Peeke.. ..	October 4.
1640, Robert Talcott	October 9.	1660, John Gale	October 2.
1641, Henry Barrington	August 30.	1661, John Milbank	October 9.
1641, Thos. Wade	November 5.	1662, Henry Lambe	August 12.
1642, Ralph Harrison	October 10.	1662, Thos. Rennolds	September 30.
1643, Thomas Lawrence	October 9.	1663, William Moor	October 9.
1644, John Cox	October 7.	1664, Thos. Wade.. ..	October 10.
1645, Robert Buxton	October 2.	1665, Thos. Talbot	December 14.
1646, John Langley	October 1.	1666, Wm. Flannar	October 9.
1647, William Cooke	October 4.	1667, Andrew Fromanteele	October 20.
1648, Henry Barrington	October 9.	1667, Andrew Fromanteele	October 9.
1649, Thomas Wade	October 9.	1668, Ralph Creffield	October 9.
1650, John Furlie	October 9.	1669, Henry Lambe	October 9.
1651, Richard Greene	October 9.	1670, Wm. Mooro	October 10.
1652, John Radhams	October 5.	1671, John Rayner	October 9.
1653, Thos. Peeke.. ..	October 4.	1672, Nathaniel Lawrence	October 9.
1654, Thos. Reynolds	October 3.	1673, Ralph Creffield	October 9.
1655, Thos. Lawrence	January 20.	1674, Henry Lambe	October 9.
		1675, Alexander Hindmers	October 9.

MAYORS—*continued.*

1676, Thos. Greene	October 9.
1677, Ralph Creffield	October 9.
1678, John Rayner	October 1.
1679, Nathaniel Lawrence	October 9.
1680, Ralph Creffield	October 9.
1681, Wm. Moore.. ..	October 10.
1682, Thos. Greene	October 9.
1683, Nathaniel Lawrence	October 9.
1684, John Stilleman	October 9.
1685, Wm. Flanner	October 2.
1686, Samuel Mott	October 5.
1687, Alexander Hindmers	October 4.
1687, John Milbank	February 27.
1688, Ditto .. ..	..
1689, John Potter	September 29.
1690, Benjamin Cock	October 9.
1691, John Seabrook	September 29.
1692, John Stileman	September 4.
1693, Samuel Mott	October 6.
1694, Wm. Moore.. ..	October 9.
1695, John Beason	October 9.
1696, John Seabrooke	August 25.
1696, Nathaniel Lawrence, jun.	October 18.
1697, Ralph Creffield, jun.	September 29.
1698, Wm. Boys	November 29.
1699, Wm. Francis	October 9.
1700, John Potter	October 7.
1701, Samuel Fetherstone	October 9.
1702, Ralph Creffield, jun.	October 9.
1703, Samuel Angier	October 9.
1704, Nathaniel Lawrence, jun.	September 5.
1705, John Rainham	October 9.
1706, James Lawrence	October 19.
1707, George Clark	October 9.
1708, John Pepper	October 9.
1709, Nathaniel Lawrence, sen.	July 18.
1709, Samuel Angier	October 10.
1710, Nathaniel Lawrence, jun.	September 29.
1711, James Lawrence	October 9.
1712, Peter Johnson	October 7.
1713, James Lawrence	October 9.
1714, George Clark	October 9.
1715, Peter Johnson	October 5.
1716, Sir Isaac Rebow, Knt.	October 2.
1717, Thos. Grigson	October 1.
1718, Robert Clarke	September 30.
1719, Thos. Grigson	October 6.
1719, Nathaniel Lawrence	February 3.
1720, Jeremiah Daniell	October 4.
1721, Arthur Winsley	October 3.
1722, Edmund Raynham	October 2.
1723, Samuel Jarrold	October 1.
1724, Peter Johnson	October 6.
1725, Jeremiah Daniell	October 5.

1726, Matthew Martin	October 4.
1727, Sir Ralph Creffield, Knt.	October 3.
1728, John Blatch.. ..	October 1.
1729, James Boys	September 29.
1730, Joseph Duffield	September 29.
1731, John Blatch.. ..	September 29.
1732, Thos. Carew.. ..	September 29.
1733, James Boys	September 29.
1734, Joseph Duffield	September 29.
1735, John Blatch.. ..	September 29.
1736, Thos. Carew.. ..	September 29.
1737, James Boys	September 29.
1738, Joseph Duffield	September 29.
1739, John Blatch.. ..	September 29.
1740, Jeremiah Daniell	March 9.

[From the year 1740 to 1763, there being no Charter in existence,
no Mayor could be appointed.]

1763, Thos. Clamtree	October 31.
1764, Henry Lodge	September 29.
1765, Thos. Wilshire	September 29.
1766, Thos. Bayles	September 29.
1767, Samuel Ennew	September 29.
1768, James Robjert	September 29.
1769, Jordan Harris Lisle	September 29.
1770, John King	September 29.
1771, Solomon Smith	September 29.
1772, Thos. Clamtree	January 2.
1772, Thos. Bayles	September 29.
1773, Thos. Clamtree	September 29.
1774, John Baker	September 29.
1775, John King	July 31.
1775, Thos. Clamtree	September 29.
1776, Thos. Boggis	September 29.
1777, Thos. Clamtree	September 29.
1778, John King	September 29.
1779, Thos. Clamtree	September 29.
1780, Thos. Boggis	September 29.
1781, John King	September 29.
1782, Stephen Betts	December 5.
1783, Wm. Seabor.. ..	September 29.
1784, Samuel Ennew	December 2.
1785, Edmund Lilley	September 29.
1786, Wm. Argent	September 29.
1787, Edward Capstack	September 29.
1788, Bezaliel Angier	September 29.
1789, Edmund Lilley	September 29.
1790, Wm. Swinborne	September 29.
1791, John Gibson.. ..	September 29.
1792, Nathaniel Barlow	December 15.
1793, Newton Tills	September 29.
1794, Wm. Phillips	September 29.
1795, Wm. Bunnell	October 6.
1796, Wm. Mason.. ..	September 29.

MAYORS --continued.

1797, Thos. Hedge	..	..	September 29.
1798, Wm. Phillips	..	..	September 29.
1799, Robert Hewes	..	..	September 29.
1800, Wm. Smith..	..	..	September 29.
1801, Thos. Hedge	..	..	September 29.
1802, Wm. Phillips	..	..	September 29.
1803, Wm. Bunnell	..	..	September 29.
1804, Thos. Hedge	..	..	September 29.
1805, Wm. Sparling	..	..	September 29.
1806, Wm. Smith ..	..	..	September 29.
1807, Thos. Hedge, jun.	..	..	September 28.
1808, Thos. Hedge	..	..	September 29.
1809, Wm. Smith ..	..	..	September 29.
1810, Francis Tillett Abell	..	..	September 29.
1811, Francis Smythies	..	..	September 29.
1812, John Bridge..	..	..	September 29.
1813, Wm. Smith ..	..	..	May 2.
1813, Wm. Sparling	..	..	September 29.
1814, John King ..	..	..	September 29.
1815, Edwd. Clay ..	..	..	September 29.
1816, Wm. Argent	..	..	September 29.
1817, Edward Clay	..	..	September 29.
1818, Wm. Argent	..	..	September 29.
1819, Francis Tillett Abell	..	..	September 29.
1820, John Clay ..	..	..	September 29.
1821, Jas. Boggis ..	..	..	September 29.
1822, Wm. Smith..	..	..	September 29.
1823, John Clay ..	..	..	September 29.
1824, Samuel Clay	..	..	September 29.
1825, John Clay ..	..	..	September 29.
1826, Edward Clay (St. Leonard's)	..	..	September 29.
1827, John Clay ..	..	..	September 29.
1828, Wm. Sparling	..	..	September 29.
1829, Edward Clay (Greenstead)	..	..	September 29.
1830, Wm. Smith ..	..	..	September 29.
1831, Wm. Sparling	..	..	September 29.
1832, Edward Clay (Greenstead)	..	..	September 29.
1833, Wm. Smith ..	..	..	September 30.
1834, Roger Nunn..	..	..	September 29.

MAYORS subsequent to the passing of the Act for the Regulation of Municipal Corporations in England and Wales. 5th and 6th WM. IV., cap. 76. Taken from the Minute Books of the Council.

1836, Geo. Savill ..	..	..	January 1.
1836, John Chaplin	..	..	November 9.
1837, Samuel Green Cooke	..	..	November 9.
1838, Geo. Bawtree	..	..	November 9.
1839, Samuel Green Cooke	..	..	November 9.
1840, Thos. Josh. Turner	..	..	November 9.
1841, Henry Vint ..	..	..	November 9.
1842, Roger Nunn ..	..	..	November 9.
1843, Henry Vint ..	..	..	November 9.
1844, Henry Wolton	..	..	November 9.
1845, Henry Wolton	..	..	November 10.
1846, Wm. Bolton Smith	..	..	November 9.
1847, Henry Wolton	..	..	November 9.
1848, Chas. Henry Hawkins	..	..	November 9.
1849, Edward Williams	..	..	November 9.
1850, Joseph Cooke	..	..	November 9.
1851, Arthur Louis Laing	..	..	November 10.
1852, Francis Smythies	..	..	November 9.
1853, Henry Wolton	..	..	November 9.
1854, Edward Williams	..	..	November 9.
1855, Joseph Cooke	..	..	November 9.
1856, Henry Wolton	..	..	November 10.
1857, Peter Martin Duncan	..	..	November 9.
1858, Arthur Louis Laing	..	..	November 9.
1859, Edward Williams	..	..	November 9.
1860, Francis Smythies	..	..	November 9.
1861, Henry Wolton	..	..	November 9.
1862, Edward Williams	..	..	November 10.
1863, John Fitzsimmons Bishop	..	..	November 9.
1864, John Fitzsimmons Bishop	..	..	November 9.
1865, Chas. Henry Hawkins	..	..	November 9.

[Dr. Nunn held office till 31st Dec., 1835, when the Municipal Reform Act came into operation.]

Calendar of the Court Rolls.

4TH AND 5TH EDWARD II.

Fourteen Rolls of this year remain ; two more, probably, have been lost.

They contain the entries of the Plaints, Pleadings, Essoigns, &c., in the Law Hundred Court of the Town, beginning with that of the Monday after Michaelmas in the 4th year.

The other matters entered on or referred to on the Rolls for this year are—

First. The Leet Inquest after Michaelmas in the 4th year, on Roll 1, and the Hilary Leet on the 6th Roll. No record of a Leet on “Hokeday,” as in subsequent years.

Second. Admission of Burgesses. There are nine of this year, of which the first is as follows :—

“Martin Marshall, of Colchester, entered into the Burgage of Colchester, same day, and touching the Holy Scriptures, swore fealty to the Town, and to keep it indemnified from all damages to arise through him, and for the greater security found pledges, Elias, son of John, William Sartor, Joseph Elianor, and Roger Tinctor. Fine 2 shillings.”

All the rest are precisely similar in form ; the parties admitted were—

John Hotfot,	no address,	fine, 40 pence.
Richard Musse, Miller,	„	„ 40 „
Philip Rokele,	Wykes,	„ half a mark.
William Fysch,	Holbroke,	„ „
Henry Miller,	no address,	„ „
William Havek,	„	„ „
Simon de Donyland,	„	„ 8 shill. and 2 pence.
William de Firmary,	„	„ half a mark.

Third. The Tolls were demised at Michaelmas to two parties at £35 the year. Demise on Roll 1.

Fourth. There are two ordinances which are considered sufficiently important for special entry. The first is on Roll 11.

“Ordinance by a full Assembly of the Burgesses of Colchester touching the maintenance of the liberties of the Town,” directing certain parties to make return

to a Writ obtained by the Bishop of London claiming quittance of Toll for himself and his men of Chelmsford, traversing such claim. This is assented to by twenty-six persons, whose names are recorded.

The other is on the 14th Roll.

“ Agreed and ordained that Richard Musse and his companions, taken by the [Gate] Keepers and Constables in Head (Heved) Street, as thieves, be kept securely in prison until the next Gaol Delivery, no bail to be taken for them.”

And the names of twenty-two Burgesses are recorded as present, “ with others,” not named.

Fifth. On the 11th Roll it is recorded that four Constables were elected, one for each Ward, “ according to the Statute of Winton.”

Sixth. There are only two records on these Rolls of transfers of real property ; both relate to Feoffments, and there is no record of a Will.

In the first, Amicia Colyn, a Widow, quitted claim to Saher de Doniland of her right in certain premises in the Market of Colchester, which Jordan Olyver had devised to her mother for her life, and after her death to the said Amicia. Roll 4.

In the other case, Matilda, the wife of John Seaman, of Stanwey, in full Hundred acknowledged conveyance by her husband and herself to William le Gerdler, to have been made with her free will without any coercion of her husband. Roll 6, dorse.

5TH AND 6TH EDWARD II.

There are thirteen Rolls remaining for this year. It is noted on the back of one that there were originally sixteen Rolls, so that three, extending from early in August to Michaelmas in the sixth year, are lost.

The matters contained on these Rolls, in addition to the Plaints and Pleas, are as follow :—

First. The Leet Inquest after Michaelmas on Rolls 1 and 2, the Hilary Inquest on Roll 6, the Hokeday Leet on Roll 9.

Second. The Admissions of Burgesses are in the same form as in the previous year, and amount to twelve. They are—

William Lucas,	no-address,	fine, one mark.
Richard de Essex	”	”
John le Bowyer,	Dedham,	” five shillings.
William Pardoun,	no address,	” forty pence.
Alan Pastour,	”	” ten shillings.
Thomas Ferthing,	of Colchester, Apparitor,	” two ”
John de Saling,	no address,	” none received.

William de Cosford,	no address,	fine, half a mark.
William le Roos,	„	„ none noted.
Henry Algod,	Wykes,	„ ten shillings.
Philip Cissor,	} same day. Donyland,	„ „ „
John Crowe,		„ two shillings.

Third. Tolls demised to Henry Seffar for £35 for the year.

Fourth. No Special Ordinances this year, but there are a few Grants of small pieces of land, apparently pieces of waste or vacant ground, at a small annual rent.

Fifth. There is again an appointment of Constables according to the Statute of Winton, Roll 8, and the references to Corporate Officers are numerous. An Inquest of Weights and Measures is taken before the Coroner and Bailiffs (Roll 4); a distraint is made by William Nichodemus, who is called a Serjeant of the Town (Roll 5); a deputy was elected in the place of Richard Pegon, one of the Serjeants, until the same Richard was convalescent (Roll 10).

Sixth. There are no records of either Deeds or Wills this year.

Seventh. The Grants by the Community are as follow :—

Grant and demise to Walter le Trumper of a vacant place on the South side of his Tenement (it does not state where), four feet in breadth and the length of his house, to build a pale thereon, paying yearly fourpence at Easter.

Alice, widow of Walter Opethewalle, the next place, length and breadth the same, rent 3 pence, at same time.

William Opethewalle the next place, at 4 pence.

Roger Alfred agreed to pay 2 pence yearly for an Encroachment at Stanwell.

William Pope Chaplain a pale before his house in Maydenburgh at a penny rent.

John Lamb, a vacant place in the Market to build a Stall, 12 feet long and 6 feet broad, paying 12 pence rent.

Elias, son of John, of Serjeant, ingress and egress by a certain place, now of Sayer de Doniland, sometime of Jordan, son of Olyver, from the Market into the Court of Pleas, for fourpence yearly rent.

3RD AND 4TH EDWARD III.

After the lapse of seventeen years, a small part of the Rolls, from Michaelmas, 1329, to 1330, is preserved. Five Rolls, commencing with Michaelmas, continue in regular order till the Monday after Hokeday; a portion of another Roll for the early part of April, and with entries relating to Courts in August and September, is all that remains of the rest.

All the Courts entered on this Roll are either entitled Law Hundred Courts, and held on a Monday, or Pleas of Colchester when held on other days. No Thursday or Foreign Courts are noticed. In addition to Plaints and Pleas I note the following :—

First. The Leet Inquest after Michaelmas appears on Roll 1, and that for Hilary on 3.

Second. The admission of Burgesses is now by a more elaborate form. The first entry is as follows :—

“ William de Redyng entered into the Burgage of Colchester, and, touching the Holy Evangelists, swore to bear fealty to the Lord Edward, King of England, and his heirs, with life and members, and also to the Borough of Colchester, and faithfully to maintain and advance the liberties of the same with body and chattels ; that he will obey the reasonable orders of the Bailiffs, and will faithfully conceal counsels touching the said Borough, and that he will keep the same Borough indemnified. And he gave the Community for a fine for his admission ten shillings, and found pledges.”

There are ten other admissions at a uniform fine of ten shillings.

Third. No record of demise of Tolls, nor of any Ordinances made or Officers elected.

Fourth. Two releases and two Wills are recorded.

Roll 1. Henry Woderove, and Joan his wife, to William Stephen, of Bentley, of all that Messuage, &c., in the Suburbs of Colchester, at New Hythe, in the parish of St. Leonard's.

Roll 5. Testament of John Tinctor so far as relates to lay fee, proved by the Executors before the Bailiffs in full Hundred, devising Messuage, &c., in Cheldewelle Field and East Street, in the Suburbs, and East medowe and a stall in the market.

Roll 6. Testament of John, son of John Maymond, as to a Messuage in East Street in the Suburbs.

Richard, son of Edmund le Chaloner, and Joan his daughter, released and quitted claim to Robert Palat, his heirs and assigns, in two acres and a half of land in Sigenefield, in the Suburbs beyond North bridge.

The Oath Book, fo. 2, contains a note of a grant of a small encroachment, by the Bailiffs and Community, to Roger Belholt, stated to be on Roll 7, now lost.

7TH AND 8TH EDWARD III.

Twelve Rolls remain for this year, two or three are lost. The Law Hundred Courts, with but two or three exceptions, were held on the Monday, in the excepted cases on the Friday.

First. The Leet Rolls will be found on Roll 1 for Michaelmas, on the 4th for Hilary, and on the 7th for Hokeday.

Second. The Burgesses' Admissions continue in the same form ; eight admissions remain recorded at a uniform fine of ten shillings.

Third. No demise of Tolls, nor election of Officers, recorded.

Fourth. The Conveyances, Wills, and Grants recorded are as follows:—

Roll 2. Emma, daughter of Robert Thurston, of Miland, releases to Warren, son of William, of Colchester, and Henry Oateson, a Moiety of a Messuage, fourteen acres of land, four acres of Meadow and five acres of Wood, at Miland.

Roll 6. Will of Saher the Pedder, by which he directed an acre of land in the Suburbs, called Stadacre, a Moor at Cheldewell, and the house he dwelt in, to be sold by his executors.

Roll 7. William, son of John atte Hidych, and John, son of Robert the Tailor, granted to John Springold all that Messuage, &c., in All Saints, belonging to them by right of heirship after the death of Joan and Alice, daughters and heirs of John de Burstall, of Colchester. Paying to the Church of All Saints sixpence every year, in equal portions at Michaelmas and Easter.

Roll 10. Edmund Carnifex surrendered into the hands of the Bailiffs a Butcher's Stall in the Market, which he held of the Community by service of 2 shillings per annum, to the use of Adam the Solvhaler, Butcher. The Community granted and demised the same Stall to the said Adam at the same rent at Hokeday, paying a fine of sixpence.

The Bailiffs and Community granted and demised to Henry Oskeyn a vacant place at Maydenburgh next land pertaining to the Castle, opposite his house, twenty-eight feet long, eighteen feet broad, at a rent of twelvepence yearly.

Roll 11. John le Chapman, and Joan his wife, Executors of John, son of Stephen Fullon, surrendered in full hundred into the hands of the Bailiffs one Shop in the Market under the Church of St. Runwald, held of them by a rent of 3 shillings and 8 pence. To the use of John Torold, to whom the Bailiffs delivered seisin, he paying the same rent and a fine of sixpence.

On the same Roll judgment is given against a Burgess who had proceeded against another for a debt in the Court at Chelmsford in derogation of the liberties of the town. He was fined ten shillings and his freedom taken away, which, on submission, was restored.

10TH AND 11TH EDWARD III.

There are ten Rolls of this year, and the series appears complete.

First. The Leet Rolls will be found on the dorse of 1 for Michaelmas, the Hilary Inquest on 4, and that for Hokeday on 7.

Second. The Burgesses admitted numbered eight, the fine still being ten shillings each.

Third. The Assize of Bread, held the Monday after the Annunciation and the Wednesday after the Decollation of the Baptist, in March and August.

Fourth. The Conveyances and Testaments recorded are—

Roll 4 dorse. Testament of William Gylmyn, devising a house in Stok Welle Strete, and rents of Tenements in Hethe (Hythe) Street.

Roll 7. Testament of William atte Hoo, of Ardleye, devising a tenement in East Street.

Roll 8 dorse. Adam de Leycester, son of John de Leycester, granted to Henry his son his tenement in East Street, in the Suburbs, and a Moor there near Spital Lane. Also his Oyster Stall in the Market, and sixpence annual rent from a tenement of Adam de Castell, opposite the Cornhull, sometime of Armine the Jew, and a penny rent from a Shop of John Rokell in the Market, and fourpence from the tenement of William Sherman, in East Street, beyond the Bridge, annually. To hold according to the liberties and customs of the Burgh.

Roll 5. Henry Sprit surrendered into the hands of the Bailiffs and Commons a House next the South Scherd, opposite the tenement sometime of William the Trumpour, which he holds of the Community for fourpence rent, to the use of John Waryn; and the said Bailiffs delivered seisin

thereof to the said John, paying the same rent and a fine of threepence. And the said John demised the same to the said Henry for a year at ten shillings rent.

Roll 6. Felicia, who was the wife, and Joan the daughter, of John Raven, surrendered a certain place, with houses, &c., outside Northgate, which they held of the Community for a rent of one penny, to the use of John, son of Richard Clerk, to whom seisin was delivered by the Bailiffs, paying the rent and a fine of threepence.

William Cranmer to Richard le Povere a place by Headgate, rent sixpence, fine one shilling and sixpence.

Fifth. The Grants by the Corporation were—

Roll 2. Bailiffs and Community of Burgesses of the Burgh of Colechester demised to Ralph de Teye Chaplain the edifice and easement of the Old Chapel of S^t. Helen from Monday after S^t. Denis to Michaelmas for two shillings, rent to be paid at Hokeday.

Roll 3. They demise to Joseph Springold a certain vacant place within the Walls near Northgate, at twopence rent.

They demise to Ralph Sweyn a vacant place within Southgate, next his tenement, held of the Community, paying twopence rent.

Roll 6. They grant to William de Maldon a vacant place within the Walls next the Postern Entry, called the South Scherd, on the East side of the same, paying eightpence annually.

They grant to Philip Parlebren, Fuller, a vacant place outside the Southsherd, opposite his house, paying fourpence rent.

They grant to Walter le Rede two drains at Grodenasse, within the River and Water pertaining to the said town, viz., one for flowing and the other for ebbing, which John Thomas sometime held, rent twelvepence per annum, fine fourpence.

Roll 8. They grant to John de Wiltshire a vacant place within the Walls, next place held by Ralph Swayn of the Community at a yearly rent of sixpence.

On same Roll the same John Wiltshire surrenders to the Bailiffs a vacant place in Wyre Street, which he holds of the Community at a rent of fourpence, to Ralph Sweyn, to whom seisin is delivered, he paying a fine of fourpence.

14TH AND 15TH EDWARD III.

Ten out of eleven Rolls remain, the seventh is lost.

First. The Leet Inquests are recorded, the Michaelmas one on Roll 1, Hilary on Roll 5. The lost Roll, 7, no doubt contained the Hokeday one.

Second. The Burgesses admitted were twenty-two, the fine still being ten shillings each.

Third. The Assize of Bread is recorded thrice : on the Thursday after St. Katherine (November 25th), the Saturday before Trinity, and the Friday in the Feast of St. Matthew (September 21st).

Fourth. There are no Wills, and the only Conveyances are :—

Roll 5 dorse. Surrender by John Salers of a place built on within the Walls at Eldelonde, to

the use of Agnes Miles, John her son, and Margery his sister, to whom seisin is delivered by the Bailiffs, they paying sixpence rent to the Community, and a fine of sixpence.

Roll 8. Richard le Barbour surrendered his Quay and Houses there built at New Hythe, sometime of Thomas de Dovercourt, holden of the Community at three shillings rent, to John Belch. Fine two shillings.

Roll 11. Elias le Herde, of Wyvenhoe, surrendered his tenement at New Hythe, held of the Community at fourpence rent, to the use of Henry Craft. Fine sixpence.

Fifth. The Grants this year were—

Roll 6. To John Baker, Cobbler, of a vacant place next Suthgate, on the East side, for threepence rent.

To Robert Basse, junior, a vacant place in South Street, in the Suburbs, at twopence rent.

Roll 10. To William de Hadley a vacant place in augmentation of his place, next the Pit of S^t. Helen, which was John de Coggs, Fuller, at twopence rent.

19TH AND 20TH EDWARD III.

Rolls 11 and 13 are lost. Twelve Rolls remain.

First. The Leet Inquests appear on the 2nd, 5th and 9th Rolls.

Second. The Burgesses' Admissions amount to twenty-two, the fine still ten shillings.

Third. John atte Halle, senior, the farmer of the Tolls for this year, took an oath, recorded on the first Roll, for the due performance of his Office, and the due payment of his rent of thirty-five pounds per annum.

Fourth. The only recorded Assize of Bread was on Friday after the Feast of the Conception of the Virgin.

Fifth. A Conveyance of Property at Stanway and other places is recorded.

The Testament of Richard de Colne proved, by which a Messuage and two Shops in the Market, a Curtilage next Culver Lane, two acres of Land next Shrebbes Street, four acres of Land next Sholond, in the Suburbs, three acres next Shrebbes, an acre lying at Waterfurgh, in the Suburbs, and seven acres in the Suburbs, are devised. Roll 4.

Roll 8. The Testament of John de Fordham, devising a Messuage in Head Street, Houses held of the Community, one called Colhawegate, and a parcel of garden at the back, two acres of land in Lacyescroft, and two acres next Little Sholond, a Stable in the Market, a Messuage in Head Street, ten acres called Bonytoncs Land.

Dorse of same Roll. Testament of John le Jay, of La Milaund, devising lands there.

Sixth. The Grants were—

Roll 2. To William Briht, of Bromley, a vacant place at Houndepet, in the Suburbs, paying twopence rent.

Roll 3. To John Clerkson, junior, a place under the Stone Wall of Colchester, outside Northgate, at the back of his shop, paying annually threepence.

Roll 4. To John le Rede, junior, a place opposite his house at New Hythe, paying twopence rent.

24TH AND 25TH EDWARD III.

Not a fragment remains of the Rolls of the year of the great pestilence, on which it is said one hundred and twenty wills were recorded, and but one Roll of the succeeding year, the 24th and 25th, and that is in an almost illegible state. It is the third Roll of the year, and contains the proceedings of the Law Hundred Court the Monday after St. Peter and St. Paul (June 29th), of the Monday after the translation of St. Thomas (July 3rd), and ends with that before St. Lawrence's Day (August 10th).

It contains the Testament of John, son of Nicholas le Dyer, made in 1349, devising his tenement in which he dwelt, adjoining land of the Prior of St. Mary Magdalen.

25TH AND 26TH EDWARD III.

Eight Rolls remain, the last being dated in September, so that not more than one Roll is lost.

First. The Leet Inquests are on the 1st, 3rd and 6th Rolls.

Second. The Burgesses admitted were ten, at the fine of ten shillings each.

Third. Roger Belch, the farmer of the Tolls, takes the oath and agrees to pay £35. His oath is followed by that of the three Serjeants elect. Roll 1.

Fourth. The Assize of Bread is taken three times this year ; the beginning of July twice, and once at the end of August.

Fifth. The Wills and Conveyances are—

Roll 4. The Testament of John Lotoun, devising his house, which extended from a Lane called Master Jonys Lane South, to the Market North.

The Testament of Alice, his wife, devising some premises.

Joan, Widow of William Balle, of Peldon, produced a Deed whereby deceased's son John released all his right and title to a Tenement situate between East Stokwell Street and West Stokwell Street to her for her life.

Roll 5. Adam Saburgh, and Alice, his wife, grant to Richard Paeke their Moor near Middelmelne.

Robert Gest, of Wykes, and Agnes, his wife, granted to John Lavenham Chaplain and Peter Waweyn, Messuage, &c., in Hythe Street, sometime Bartholomew Bygod's.

William atte Broke, of Dedham, and Matilda, his wife, release to William de Brome a Messuage, &c., in the Market, formerly John Arwesmyht.

William Capon, and Cristiana his wife, release to Geoffrey Dawes divers annual rents in Colchester.

John Frere grants to same Geoffrey two acres, one called Long Acre and the other Crabtree Acre, in the Suburbs, near the Magdalen.

Roll 4. Thomas Juscard Chaplain granted to same Geoffrey Dawes a piece of land lying in the Croft called Marchalysland, in the Suburbs, near the Magdalen.

Roll 7. Testament of John atte Hache devising his stall in the flesh market to Joan his wife.

Releases by Joan Balle and John, son of William Balle, of the premises in East and West Stokwell Street before referred to.

Roll 8. Thomas Wythemershe, and Petronilla his wife, granted to William le Wreyhte, of Stanwey, their Messuage next "le North Sherd," said Petronilla, duly acknowledging same deed.

Felicia Joyes is mentioned as having become a Burgess in the 29th Edward III. ; she is frequently named in this Roll.

27TH AND 28TH EDWARD III.

The series of this year complete—there are fourteen Rolls.

First. The Leet Inquests are on Rolls 1, 5, and 10.

Second. Fifty Burgesses admitted at ten shillings.

Third. The Demise of Tolls to Simon Loton is on the back of the first Roll, rent £35 ; as is now usual, the Oath of the three Serjeants elect follows it.

Fourth. The Assize of Bread was taken in February (Roll 4), and August (Roll 13).

Fifth. The following are all the Testaments and Deeds enrolled—

Roll 3. Testament of Warin Parker devising tenement and Shop in S^t. Runwald's, a piece of land opposite the "Great School," three acres opposite the land called Bradeston, two acres lying next "Portes Pightle," to be sold for endowing a Chantry in S^t. Runwald, and two Granges in East Stokwell Street.

Roll 4. William Somenour, and Joan, his wife, released two Tenements under one roof in North Street, which formerly belonged to Henry Horsepet, the former husband of the said Joan, to Adam, son of Warin, son of William John Parson, of S^t. Runwald, and William Holton and their heirs, &c.

30TH AND 31ST EDWARD III.

Complete in fourteen Rolls.

First. The Leet Inquests are on Rolls 1, 5, and 9.

Second. Fifteen Burgesses admitted, fourteen at ten shillings and one on statement that he was born in the liberties, duly proved, and, on his petition, without payment.

Third. The Tolls demised to Robert atte Ford and another for £35. 6s. 8d.

Fourth. The Assize of Bread was taken on August 11.

Fifth. The Deeds and Testaments are—

Roll 7. Geoffrey le Dyer, and Christian, his wife, grant to Katherine, wife of John Bayn, all that Shop, &c., in the Market, in S^t. Runwald's.

John Aldburton, Tanner, and Agnes, his wife, to John Pebemersh, Baker, two Shops and a vacant place in St. Peter's.

Roll 9. Testament of John Weston, devising his new building opposite Cornhell, in the Market, and two Shops, with Sollar over them, and piece of land adjoining, in the end of the Castle Ditch.

Testament of Gilbert Pyggeslee, of New Hythe, devising his Messuage there.

Joan, widow of John Arwesmyth, granted to Geoffrey Dawe a Meadow containing three acres, adjoining the Highway leading to New Hythe.

Roll 11. John Pekok, late Arwesmyth, granted to same Geoffrey all that tenement and Garden at New Hythe, near the New Hall.

John Finch surrendered a Fish Stall opposite the Tavern Door of Robert Fraunceys to the same Robert, to hold of the Community, at a Rent of fourpence.

Roll 12. Testament of Edmund in the Fenne devising his Tenement in Hythe Street.

Roll 14. John Frere to Geoffrey Dawe, of Long Acre and Crabbes Acre.

Richard Denham, and Philippa, his wife, released all claim to the House which Geoffrey Dawe inhabits near the New Hall at New Hythe, and adjoining Saltmeadow, to him.

Sixth. The Demises and Grants by the Corporation are—

Roll 12. To Robert atte Gate the Messuage called Kyrcolles, standing on the North Wall of the Town.

Roll 13. Demise to Roger Horkeslegh, Tanner, of a small piece of land outside Northgate, at a place called the "Ordylpet." (No rent stated.)

Roll 14. He surrendered same, and it was re-granted to him in fee on payment of two shillings fine.

Three Apprenticeship Indentures are entered on Roll 3, the first given at full length.

33RD AND 34TH EDWARD III.

The Rolls of this year are complete, nineteen in number.

First. The Leet Inquests are on 1, 6 and 11.

Second. Twenty-one Burgesses' Admissions: twenty on payment of ten shillings, and one, John de le Rokele Clerk, gratis.

Third. The Tolls demised to Robert atte Forde for £35. The three Serjeants sworn at the same time.

Fourth. The Deeds and Wills enrolled follow.

Roll 3. Testament of William le Teyler, of Miland, Tenement and Land at Miland, and his land called Bipettesland.

Testament of Alice, his wife, of same property.

Roll 5. Testament of John Doraunt Goldsmith, devising Messuage, &c., in St. Nicholas.

Roll 6. Walter Cole, and Christiaua, his wife, and others, surrender to Richard Wymbush and Andrew Pouchmaker a house at the corner of the field of Sholond, held of the Community at twopence rent. Fine two shillings.

Roll 9. Testament of Roger Horkeslegh devising Messuage in St. Peter's, Messuages, Tanhouses, Lands, &c., in Colchester, not more particularly described.

Roll 10. John, son of Geoffrey, son of Maur, releases to Simon Hadlegh, Messuage, &c., in East Street.

Roll 11. Testament of Adam Saburgh devising his dwelling-house in Colchester.

Roll 12. Ralph King, Mercer, and Joan his wife, to Simon Martin Dyer, Messuage, &c., in East Street, acknowledged by Joan.

Same parties other property in East Street, near East Meadow.

Roll 14. Testament of John Frere devising Tenement and Shops in Market, and his croft at Schrebbestreet, and two shops under the Church of St. Runwald.

Roll 16. Roger Bulbeck, and Margaret his wife, to Thomas Monem, Mercer, of two Cottages in the town, not further described.

Ralph Fuller surrendered a place of land at the East end of the Town to the use of Sampson Jernigon Fuller. (See further in the Grants.)

Roll 17. Testament of Nicholas le Herde of Tenement and two acres of land, his Croft called Gogeesfeld, his land called Quarmeslond, and Meadow called Otesbredemead.

Roll 18. Thomas Markeshall surrendered a place of Land at the Eldelond, in the end of Wyer Street, to the use of Matilda, his daughter ; rent sixpence, fine twelvepence.

Roll 19. John Lucas Spicer, and Juliana his wife, to William de la Rokele Clerk, of a Tenement with a cellar under it in Saint Nicholas.

John de Bergholt, and Juliana his wife, to Alice, wife of John de Mokking, of London, of a Messuage formerly of John Fynch.

Fifth. The Corporation Grants this year are—

Roll 3. Demise to Robert Beche Clerk of vacant place sometime of John Coggeshall, lying on the Castle Ditch in length from a certain "*Hillera*," standing next the said Ditch at the north Head to the South Corner of the place of Robert Sage, at a rent of sixpence.

Roll 16. Grant by Deed under Common Seal to Sampson Jerigon, Fuller, of the place surrendered by Ralph Fuller.

At Roll 8 the Sub-Bailiff certified that " he cannot attach John, the son of Ralph Bygod, of Layr Marny, for a debt to John Glovere." A *capias* was issued returnable on the feast day of Saint Scolastica, on which day a similar certificate was made, and a further order made to take him before the Monday after St. Valentine, but no further proceedings appear. This was, no doubt, a scion of the great House of Bigod, one of whom declared " if he were in his Castle of Bongaye, he would ne care for the King of Cokeney."

34TH AND 35TH EDWARD III.

The only Rolls to be found of this year are the 7th, 8th, 9th, 14th, and 15th.

First. The Hilary Leet inquest alone remains.

Second. Three Burgesses admitted at ten shillings each.

Third. The Wills and Deeds recorded are—

Roll 7. John Waller, and Alice his wife, to Thomas Wagg, of Horningsherth, of a Messuage in Hythe Street, one head of which extended to Cheldewelle Field.

Roll 8. Testament of John le Deyer of a Messuage at Stanwell, his Moor adjoining under the Stone wall of the Town with tenements thereon, four acres of land towards the Hythe, a vacant place called Crogge's in North Street, a Messuage, &c., beyond North Bridge. His dwelling-house and Land called Palattes Croft, Land called Slaggeland, and his land called Goodyares hawe, Land called Walleroft, and Moor called Marchals.

This was the year of the Second great Pestilence, and the above Will is the only one remaining of between thirty and forty proved during the year.

Roll 8. William Jay, and Margaret his wife, and others, to Roger Love, of Miland, of Messuage and Land there adjoining Kingswode heath, acknowledged by two married women.

John Savage, and Agnes his wife, grant to Robert atte Tangle, of Colne Engayne, Chaplain and others, a Tenement and Garden in St. Martin's, adjoining West Stokewell Street.

Roll 15. Thomas Beward surrendered to Bailiffs a piece of land within Northgate to the use of Robert atte Gate, held of the Community at one penny rent, fine twelvepence.

Fourth. The demises of the Corporation recorded—

Roll 9. To William Mace a vacant place opposite his house in Trinity Parish at a penny rent, fine sixpence.

38TH AND 39TH EDWARD III.

Numbered 1 to 15, of which No. 14 is lost.

First. Leet Inquests on 1, 3, and 8.

Second. Twelve Burgesses admitted at ten shillings.

Third. No demise of Tolls or Serjeants' elections.

Fourth. Assize of Bread in August on Roll 10.

Fifth. Deeds and Wills this year as follows :—

Roll 2. William, son of Adam atte Water, Tanner, to Richard Paccard, Merchant, House in North Street near the Way leading to the Hall of Lexden and Doresmeadow, in the Snburbs. Paccard demises to said William for three years, at twenty pounds rent.

Roll 3. John, son of Robert Abydon, and Agnes his wife, to John Ferthing a House next Head Gate to the West of it, extending to land of the Church of Saint Mary, acknowledged by said Agnes.

John Spug, and Katherine his wife, to William Capon, and Christiana his wife, Tenement and Garden in New Hythe.

Roll 4. John Wynyot, and Matilda his wife, to William Lamb, Messuage, &c, in Hythe Street.

Roll 6. Roger Devote to John Spug, Messuage, &c., in New Hythe.

Testament of Joan Branneche of Tenement in the Way of Maydenburgh, in St. Nicholas.

Roll 7. Stephen Coteler, of Ipswich, and Christiana his wife, to Richard Sadeler, of Hyntlesham, of a Messuage, &c., in the Way of Maydenburgh, next Castle Field.

Roll 8. John Spakeman, of Ardleggh, and Margaret his wife, to John Dannyld and another of Tenement in Hythe Street.

John Spake, of Codenham, and Margaret his wife, to Richard Paccard, Tenement and Garden in New Hythe.

Roll 14. William Wodehewer, of Ardleggh, and Christiana his wife, to Ralph Flixton, of Messuage in Suburbs.

Sixth. The Corporation demise :

Roll 15. To John de Copford, Chaplain, two places opposite Shop, &c., formerly of Richard de Copford, in the Market, to construct two poys.*

40TH AND 41ST EDWARD III.

The series complete in eighteen Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests on Rolls 1, 6, and 11.

Second. Fourteen Burgesses made at ten shillings.

Third. No demise of Tolls or Serjeants' elections.

Fourth. Assize of Bread in March on Roll 10.

Fifth. Deeds and Wills recorded are—

Roll 2. Deed acknowledged by Joan, the wife of Thomas Lack, of Colchester.

Roll 3. The like by Agnes, wife of Richard Evesong.

Roll 5. Two by Katherine, wife of Robert Belamy.

Roll 8. One by Margery, wife of Thomas Lacy.

Roll 14. Testament of Roger Sycoler.

Roll 16. Testament of Geoffrey Chapman.

Sixth. Grants and Surrenders of Corporate Lands.

Roll 14. To John Boyn a place of Land North of the Tenement of Robert Cock, rent threepence, fine twelvepence.

Another piece at North Bridge, rent a penny, fine twelvepence.

Roll 18. John atte Ford surrendered a Messuage, &c., upon the Town Wall next Eldelond, to the use of Ralph Barker, Fuller. Fine twelvepence.

46TH AND 47TH EDWARD III.

Seventeen Rolls, an eighteenth lost.

First. Leet Inquests on Rolls 1, 6, and 11.

Second. Twenty-five Burgesses admitted, fine ten shillings.

Third. Demise of Tolls to Stephen Baron at £35. Roll 1.

Fourth. Assize of Bread taken in November (Roll 5) and June (Roll 14.)

* See also "Corporate Grants," 15 and 16 Richard II. The Poy seems to have been some projection in the nature of a Penthouse or Stall. In the examination of John Bulleyn of Stanway, Labourer, 8th Dec., 1567—"He went with other people "to Bere Church and supped there. And after supper this examine he thought to have gone home, and for that it "rayned he would not but went to *Mr. Smythe's poye*, his landlord, and satt him down and slept there untill three of the "clock in the morning," &c. "Examination Book," 4.

Fifth. The Acknowledgments were by—

- Roll 2. Christiana, wife of John Howlet.
 Christiana, wife of John Lucas.
 Roll 8. Isabella, wife of John Canon.
 Roll 10. Alice, wife of John Sayer
 Roll 16. Juliana, wife of John Grygge.

Sixth. The Wills proved were—

- Roll 9. Testament of John Soler.
 Roll 16. Testament of John Spug, of New Hythe.
 Testament of John Longeon.

48TH AND 49TH EDWARD III.

Numbered 1 to 20, of these Nos. 14 and 19 are lost.

First. Leet Inquests on Rolls 1 and 6. Hokeday one lost, was probably on 14.

Second. Sixteen Burgesses admitted at ten shillings.

Third. Tolls demised to Augustine Plomer at £35 and £6 13s. 4d. Three Serjeants elected and sworn. Roll 1.

Fourth. Assize of Bread in March (9) and June (17).

Fifth. Acknowledgments.

- Roll 6. Elen, wife of Ralph Flixton.
 Philippa, wife of William Hunt.
 Roll 11. Joan, wife of John Mussell.

Sixth. Testaments.

- Roll 4. William Speller.
 Roll 5. William Prentys.
 Roll 17. Stephen Dober, Tanner.

On the dorse of 4 a number of men are presented for destroying the Oyster Brood.

50TH EDWARD III. AND 1 RICHARD II.

Numbered to 25, of which 1, 3, and 15 are lost.

First. Part of Leet Inquest for Michaelmas on Roll 2, Hilary on 9, Hokeday lost.

Second. Few Burgesses admitted, and again great variance in the amount of fines, as follow :—

				s.	d.
Roll 7.	Richard Parrok, of Horselegh	..	..	..	13 4
Roll 9.	Roger Chirchman	..	..	..	20 0
	John Lyndholt	..	..	..	24 0
	Thomas Warner	..	..	..	20 0

					£	s.	d.
Roll 12.	John Crabbe	..	..	..	..	20	0
	John Saney	..	..	..	..	20	0
	John atte Brooke	..	..	..	..	20	0
Roll 14.	John S kyrwhyte	..	..	..	..	40	0
Roll 20.	Ralph Algar	..	..	..	..	10	0 0
Roll 21.	Thomas Pycard	..	..	..	..	36	8
Roll 23.	William Gosse	..	..	..	..	36	8

Third. No demise of Tolls or election of Officers remaining, except of eight Auditors on Roll 2.

Fourth. Assize of Bread for December on Roll 12.

Fifth. Acknowledgments.

Roll 12. Matilda, wife of — Sudbury.

Roll 18. Christiana, wife of John Smith, of Lexden.

Roll 20. Christiana, wife of Thomas Deynes.

Sixth. Testaments.

Roll 20. Robert Goode, Baker.

Roll 9. Thomas Horn.

Roll 14. Margery, Widow of Clement Dyer.

Roll 22. William Gerveys.

Seventh. Corporation Grants.

Roll 18. To Robert Ketil of vacant place next East Gate, Curtilage of Rectory of S^t. James West, Moor Street East.

2ND AND 3RD RICHARD II.

Twenty-eight Rolls, series complete.

First. Leet Inquests on Rolls 1, 9, and 18.

Second. Eighteen Burgesses admitted at following fines :—

					£	s.	d.
Roll 3.	John Morice	..	..	..	..	23	4
	John Daure	..	..	..	..	23	4
	William Holbech	..	..	..	..	23	4
Roll 7.	William Winde	..	..	..	..	4	0 0
	Thomas Gentelman	..	..	..	..	23	4
	William Bertelot	..	..	..	..	23	4
	John Newport	..	..	..	..	23	4
	John Chandeler	..	..	..	..	23	4
Roll 8.	John Cole Wayte	..	..	..	..	20	0

					s.	d.
Roll 9.	Richard Belew	..	..	..	..	23 4
Roll 11.	John Mynst . .	..	..	..	..	23 4
	John Rokyngham	..	..	..	..	23 4
	Thomas Sawyere	..	..	..	..	23 4
	Walter Street, of Fingringho	..	..	..	..	23 4
Roll 13.	John Holderness	..	..	..	..	23 4
Roll 14.	Roger Spendlove	..	..	..	..	23 4
Roll 15.	John Warde	..	..	..	..	26 8
Roll 16.	Geoffrey Strange	..	..	..	..	23 4

There is nothing to indicate the reason of these variances.

Third. No demise of Tolls recorded ; Auditors' election on Roll 1, Serjeants on Roll 2.

Fourth. Assize of Bread in June, on Roll 22.

Fifth. Acknowledgments by married women.

Roll 2. Margaret, wife of Thomas Litelby.

Roll 5. Joan, wife of William Mayhew.

Roll 10. Mabel, wife of Edmund le Spencer.

Roll 9. Joan, wife of Thomas Pallat.

Roll 14. Agnes, wife of William Eastwood.

Roll 17. Katherine, wife of Hugh Bokenham.

Agnes, wife of Gilbert Bromeswold (Mortgage).

Roll 19. Agnes, wife of John Essex.

Sixth. The Testaments proved were—

Roll 5. Henry Barber.

Roll 23. Joan Fermery.

Roll 7. William Beste.

John Machon.

Roll 9. Agnes Ermegard.

Roll 27. John Aylwyn.

John Smart.

Roll 28. John Casp.

Seventh. Corporation Grants and Surrenders.

Roll 6. To Thomas Morkyn a certain vacant place in the end of East Street, opposite the place where the Gallows formerly stood, at a rent of two shillings.

Roll 18. John Champeney's surrendered a place of land next "Seynt Eleyne Pct," rent four shillings and threepence. To the use of John Plomer Fletcher.

Roll 25. To John Deynes a place of land next the Ditch, and opposite the Castle Ditch, rent fourpence.

On the dorse of Roll 10 is a Mortgage by two Deeds from one Simon Martin to John Aubrey and John Chercheman, Citizens and Merchants of London. The first Deed is an absolute Conveyance of the Property, and it is recorded that on its

production Martin was examined by the Bailiffs, and told them that he made it of his own free will, and that it was under the Conditions contained in the other Indenture between them then recorded "word for word." The first instance observed.

3RD AND 4TH RICHARD II.

Out of 37 Rolls Nos. 1, 3, 4, 7, 12, and 25 are lost.

First. Only the Hilary and Hokeday Leets are recorded, they are on Rolls 10 and 18.

Second. Eleven Burgesses admitted as follow :—

					s.	d.
Roll 6.	John Plomer	..	..	..	..	20 0
	John Aylmer, Brewer	..	..	..	..	23 4
Roll 9.	Thomas Morell	..	..	..	..	20 0
Roll 14.	John Kent, Carpenter	..	..	..	..	22 0
	John Kayntbregge	..	..	..	..	22 0
Roll 21.	John Hampton	..	..	..	..	40 0
Roll 17.	Thomas Terry	..	..	..	..	23 4
Roll 24.	Michael Aunger, Town Clerk	..	..	..	..	nil.
Roll 27.	John Cristian	..	..	..	..	100 0
Roll 33.	William Cosham	..	..	..	..	26 8
Roll 34.	John Abel ..	..	..	..	..	22 0

Third. No demise of Tolls recorded. Three Serjeants elected by the twenty-four on second Roll.

Fourth. Assize of Bread Saturday before St. Gregory, Roll 15, and on the twenty-ninth of April on 20.

Fifth. The Acknowledgments are—

- Roll 2. Rose, wife of John Bentlegh.
- Roll 15. Alice, daughter of William, son of John atte Parke.
- Roll 18. Emma, wife of John Lyard.
- Roll 26. Cristiana, wife of Thomas Pyk.
- Roll 29. Alice, wife of John Organer.
- Roll 34. Joan, wife of Nicholas le Herde.

Sixth. The Testaments proved are—

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| Roll 10. Richard Drory. | Roll 24. John Draper. |
| Roll 13. John Dannyld. | Roger Love. |
| Roll 15. John Schipman. | Robert Beeche Clerk. |
| Roll 18. Mary, widow of Jeffery Haraas. | Roll 26. William Bacon. |
| | John Pebemersh. |

Seventh. The Corporation Grants are—

Roll 14. To John Myddelton of a void piece between the Messuage of John Seman, North, and of Alice Ry, South.

Roll 15. To Thomas Deynes a piece of land for three *Stulps*, or *Spores*, to carry a certain vine opposite the House of Clement Dyer, in North Street, rent twopence yearly.

Roll 22. To same Deynes a vacant place next the North River, at the North end of North Bridge, for two shillings.

Roll 36. To John Hamelyn a vacant place in East Ward, rent sixpence.

5TH AND 6TH RICHARD II.

There are 56 Rolls of this year, complete.

So great is the amount of litigation here recorded that as many as from thirty to forty Writs of Capias will be found taken out at a single Court. Some idea may be formed of the extent of litigation in this and a few succeeding years when it is stated that these Rolls are of considerable length and covered on both sides, and that the writing is extremely minute. The other subjects mentioned upon them are—

First. The Leet Inquests on Rolls 1, 15, and 29.

Second. Twenty-three Burgesses, whose fines are—

Ten at 20s. Two at 22s. Six at 26s. 8d. One at 30s. One at 40s. One at 53s. 4d. One at 60s. One at 80s.

Third. No demise of Tolls. Three Serjeants elected, Roll 1.

Fourth. Assize of Bread Tuesday after Palm Sunday, Roll 26.

Fifth. Acknowledgments.

Roll 6. Joan, wife of Robert Peckham.

Isabella, wife of Robert Light.

Roll 49. Isabella, wife of Robert Light.

Roll 7. Matilda, wife of John Tymyot.

Roll 21. Juliana, wife of John Sominour.

Roll 26. Christiana, wife of Robert Thomas.

Roll 36. Emma, wife of Robert Herring, Mortgage.

Roll 49. Alice, wife of John Okman.

Sixth. Testaments proved.

Roll 8. William Hefker.

Roll 44. John Danyel.

Roll 15. Adam Boteler.

Roll 51. Adam, son of Warin, son of William.

Roll 25. Margaret Tayler.

The last is given at full length.

Seventh. Corporation Grants and Surrenders.

Roll 23. John Syward surrendered a piece of land next East Gate between Messuage pertaining

to the Church of S^t. James on one part and the King's Way leading from Moor Street to East Bridge on the other, to the use of John Here, rent twelvepence.

Roll 29. Grant to William Bertelot of a vacant place next Castle Ditch, rent thirteenpence.

To Stephen Wryght a vacant place opposite the Chapel of S^t. Helen, rent twelvepence.

Roll 35. To John Stanstead, Clerk, a piece of land in the Corner of the Lane leading towards Scholonde, and as he enables the Bailiffs and Community to widen the lane ten feet, neither fine nor rent from him.

Roll 37. The Bailiffs and Community cause the Stone Walls of the Town to be repaired daily, as they are greatly decayed. And because John Hampton, and Margaret his wife, daughter of Geoffrey Haraas, hold a place with a House annexed to the said Stone Wall, near East Gate, which House stands in the way of such repairs, it seems to the Bailiffs and men selected by the Council that such house should be removed, wherefore they grant a piece of land near S^t. Helen's Pit whereon to build the same, at a half-penny rent.

6TH AND 7TH RICHARD II.

Fifty-eight Rolls, complete.

First. Leet Inquests on Rolls 2, 21, and 25.

Second. Fifteen Burgesses admitted. Nine at 20s., two at 23s. 4d., two at 26s. 8d., one at 30s., and one at 40s.

Third. Four Serjeants elected (Roll 2), Auditors (Roll 3), and Receiver for Toll on Corn (15).

Fourth. Assize of Bread, 24th November. Roll 15.

Fifth. Acknowledgments.

Roll 36. Margaret, wife of Robert Beste.

Roll 38. Heirs, of Roger Sebern.

Roll 45. Alice, wife of William Appleton.

Roll 27. Joan, wife of John Sextayn.

Sixth. Testaments.

Roll 15. William Mace.

Roll 48. John Aleyn.

Roll 29. Richard Thurston.

Roll 55. Elias Pedder.

Robert de Whathamstede.

Seventh. Corporation Grants and Surrenders.

Roll 9. Thomas Whethermersh surrendered to the use of Edmund Aungeveyn part of a Tenement next the Castle Gate, to hold for ever, by the rod, paying a fine, &c.

Same parties, another tenement at same place.

Roll 57. Demise to Ralph Algar of small pieces of vacant Ground at Hythe, rent twopence.

7TH AND 8TH RICHARD II.

Twenty-two Rolls remain out of about sixty-three. Those which remain are numbered 22, 23, 25, 26, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 36, 37, 38, 46, 48, 49, 52, 55, 56 (found loose on the Record Room floor), 57, 59, 63.

First. Leet Inquests : Hilary, Roll 26 ; Hokeday, 36.

Second. Six Burgesses' admissions remain. Three at 20s., two at 26s. 8d., and one at 53s. 4d.

Third. No record of demise of Tolls or Election of Officers.

Fourth. Assize of Bread in Whitsun Week on 46.

Fifth. Acknowledgments are—

Roll 38. Christiana, wife of John Smyth.
 Roll 48. Matilda, wife of Nicholas Barker.
 Roll 57. Joan, wife of William Ratlesden.
 Roll 59. Christiana, wife of Robert atte Forde.
 Roll 63. Katherine, wife of William Draper.

Sixth. The Testaments are—

Roll 22. Peter Barker.	Roll 26. John Hykeman.
William Lambe.	Roll 59. Henry Smyth.
Roll 26. John atte Forde.	Roll 63. Gilbert Burgeys.
Roger Kirketon.	

Seventh. Corporation Grants and Surrenders.

Roll 63. John Brooman and wife surrender to Bailiffs a place at New Hythe, sometime of Robert Chapman, called Long Nobbe, rent fourpence.

8TH AND 9TH RICHARD II.

Fifty-nine out of sixty-three, three last lost.

First. Leet Inquests on Rolls 1, 19, and 34.

Second. Election of Serjeants, Auditors and Collector. Roll 2.

Third. Twenty-two Burgesses admitted. One free, ten at 20s., one at 22s., two at 23s. 4d., one at 30s., two at 33s. 4d., three defaced.

Fourth. Assize of Bread in June. Roll 49.

Fifth. Acknowledgments.

Roll 11. Eleanor, wife of John Peps.
 Roll 13. Christiana, wife of John Cristion.
 Roll 23. Agnes, wife of Thomas Joye.
 Roll 31. Avelina, wife of Robert Colue.

Roll 28. Katherine, wife of Richard Hunt.
 Roll 53. Joan, wife of John Welles.
 Isabella, wife of Robert Light.

Sixth. Testaments.

Roll 11. John Hauk, junior.	Roll 51. John Kensel.
Roll 26. Christiana Vaux.	Roll 58. John Saunders.
Roll 40. Thomas Joye.	Matilda Okelee.

Seventh. Releases recorded.

Roll 34. Roger, son and heir of Thomas Bulbek, to Walter atte Lee Knight and others.
 Roll 56. William Reynes to William Worstede and others.

Eighth. Corporation Grants and Surrenders.

Roll 24. Thomas Lane surrendered to the use of William Alapert two Tenements opposite Castle Ditch.

9TH AND 10TH RICHARD II.

Numbered to 61, of which No. 60 is lost.

First. Leet Inquests on Rolls 1, 22, and 41.

Second. Eighteen Burgesses admitted. Nine at 20s., three at 23s. 4d., three at 26s. 8d., one at 40s., and two illegible.

Third. Election of Serjeants, Auditors, and Measurer at the Hythe, on Roll 2.

Fourth. Assize of Bread in July, on 50 ; March, 57.

Fifth. Acknowledgments.

Roll 4. Rose, wife of William Talbot.
 Roll 6. Heir at Law of Reginald Grate.
 Roll 20. Christiana, wife of Thomas Deynes.
 Roll 38. Joan, wife of John Marham.
 Dionisia, wife of William Crabbe.
 Alicia, wife of John Middeljohan.
 Roll 40. Margaret, wife of William Edree.

Sixth. Testaments.

Roll 16. William Talbot.	Roll 52. Christiana Wymbush.
Roll 25. Richard Foxton.	

Seventh. Corporation Grants and Surrenders.

Roll 61. Thomas Lane surrendered a place next the Castle Ditch to John Budd, of Maldon.

N.B. A Release by Wm. Ratlesden to the Town and Friars Minors on 51.

11TH AND 12TH RICHARD II.

Seventy-one Rolls, complete, except some torn.

First. Leet Inquests on Rolls 1, 27, and 46.

Second. Sixteen Burgesses admitted, fines twenty shillings.

Third. Tolls demised to John Caperoun for £35. Roll 16. A Moiety of Measurage at New Hythe to William Dud for £7, the other to Richard Smyth for the like sum. Roll 16. Serjeants and Receivers elected on Roll 2.

Fourth. Assize of Bread on Rolls 27 and 49.

Fifth. Acknowledgments.

Roll 9. Lucy, wife of John Lyne.

Roll 19. Eleanor, wife of William Rosse.

Roll 42. Isabella, wife of Thomas Lavender.

Roll 43. Alice, wife of John Middeljohan.

Roll 71. Alice, wife of John Middeljohan.

Sixth. Testaments.

Roll 18. Nicholas Premerole.

Roll 45. William Bradewey.

Roll 32. William de Clare.

Roll 61. Alexander atte Welle.

Roll 45. John Danneld.

Seventh. Corporation Grants, &c.

Roll 40. William Houlet surrendered to the use of Simon White a vacant place opposite St. Helen's Chapel, rent twelvepence.

Roll 45. Demise to John Dyer of a vacant place opposite North Bridge called Elde Ree, rent sixpence half-penny.

Roll 71. John Deynes surrendered a vacant place of land in Maydenburgh, opposite the door of St. Helen's Chapel, rent twopence.

Same surrendered same place to use of Robert Tekel, rent fourpence.

Henry Bosse stops the Highway at Gallows Barn, in East Street, by an uncleansed Water Course. Roll 47.

15TH AND 16TH RICHARD II.

Numbered to 45, but Nos. 1, 2, and 43 lost.

First. Leet Inquests on 14 and 28.

Second. Nine Burgesses admitted. Six at 20s., three at 26s. 8d.

Third. Tolls demised to John Pope for £40. Roll 4.

Fourth. Acknowledgments

Roll 10. Emma, wife of John Best.

Roll 25. Emma, wife of John Best.

Roll 30. Audrey, wife of Peter Thurmod.

Roll 31. Margaret, wife of John Bewk.
 Roll 32. Joan, wife of Robert Pope.
 Roll 40. Christina, wife of William Ewan.

Fifth. Releases.

Roll 9. Thomas Marchaunt to Thomas Bray.
 Roll 12. John, son of Roger Horkeslegh, to John Ferthing.
 Roll 18. John Caperoun to John Wonyld and others.

Sixth. Testaments.

Roll 10. Richard Bland.	Roll 29. Stephen Barker.
Roll 13. William Cristemasse.	Roll 31. John Delve.
Roll 21. Alice Clerk.	Roll 40. John Broome.
Roll 26. Stephen Lovekyn.	Roll 41. John Cok.

Seventh. Corporation Grants, &c.

Roll 45. To Richard Sporier a Poy outside Headgate, opposite his Shop, and a piece of void ground under the Wall of his house for a Grindstone, rent fourpence.

N.B. East Doniland then within the Liberty, see a Plea on Roll 5. Roll 7. Newland Prior, &c., *v.* Flete.

16TH AND 17TH RICHARD II.

Numbered 1 to 42. Nos. 30 to 34 inclusive lost.

First. Leet Inquests are on 1, 17, and 27.

Second. Fourteen Burgesses admitted. Eleven at 20s., two at 26s. 8d., one at 100s.

Third. Land Tolls demised to William Dod for £18. Water Tolls to Robert Horkeslegh for £17. William Wytham appointed Measurer at the New Crane. Roll 2.

Four Serjeants' Elections and Recognizances on same Roll.

Fourth. Acknowledgments.

Roll 27. Agnes, wife of Richard Little.
 Agnes, wife of John Pebemersh.
 Roll 28. Margaret, wife of Robert Gordon.
 Roll 35. Joan, wife of Nicholas Kervere.

Fifth. Releases.

Roll 27. Executors of Richard Barker to John Cristion and others.
 Roll 28. Heirs of Cristian Hendy to John Brithe and others.

Sixth. Testaments.

Roll 10. Thomas Coggere.	Roll 23. John Lavender.
Roll 12. John Skyrwiht.	Roll 24. William Bintre.
Roll 17. Walter Stanewey.	Roll 40. John atte Cherche.
Roll 21. John Thrustleford.	Roll 42. Alexander Cogger.

Seventh. Corporation Grants, &c.

Roll 42. To Thomas Sadeler a vacant place opposite the Cemetery of All Saints, near the Castle Ditch, containing, in length, twenty-eight yards and a half, namely, from a way under the house of John Lyard leading to the field of the Castle to a Boundary between the same Thomas and William Reve, and the same way to remain two yards in breadth, rent sixpence per annum.

Roll 45. To John Cristion, an encroachment on the King's Way at New Hythe, rent one penny.
To Leman and Thomas Clerk, a ditch sometime pertaining to the North River, rent fourpence.

19TH AND 20TH RICHARD II.

Complete to Roll 26, Nos. 27, 28, and 30 lost, 29 remains.

First. Leet Inquests on 1, 11, and 20.

Second. Eighteen Burgesses admitted. Eleven at 20s., three at 23s. 4d., one at 30s., two at 33s. 4d., and one at 40s.

Third. Tolls at New Hythe demised to Stephen Richards for £20. Other Tolls to Nicholas Aubre for £18. William Wytham to keep the New Crane. Roll 7,

Fourth. Assize of Bread in April. Roll 22.

Fifth. Acknowledgments.

Roll 15. Joan, wife of John Mabbe.
Roll 17. Joan, wife of James Pope.
Roll 18. Clemencia, wife of Philip Denyas.
Roll 19. Mariota, wife of Robert Barker.
Agnes, wife of John Beche.
Roll 23. Margaret, wife of Richard Clerk.
Roll 29. Katherine, wife of John Broman.

Sixth. Testaments enrolled.

Roll 4. John Baker.	Roll 23. Alexander Tilseck.
Roll 7. Roger Flyngaunt.	Roll 29. John Vere.

N.B. On Roll 15 is a presentment that the Bakers, in revenge for the stringency of the Assize, had entered into a secret conspiracy among the Wine Tubs in the Cellar of a Tavern, to starve the town !

22ND AND 23RD RICHARD II.

Twenty-five Rolls in regular sequence.

First. Leet Inquests on 1, 9, and 16.

Second. Six Burgesses admitted. One at 20s., two at 23s. 4d., one at 30s., one at 26s. 8d., and one at £3. 6s. 8d.

Third. Tolls demised for £40. Roll 2. New Mill tenant to be receiver for Town-election of four Serjeants, Auditors, Council, four Clavigers, and two Coroners.

Fourth. Assize of Bread in February. Roll 11.

Fifth. Acknowledgments.

Roll 4. Joan, wife of Robert Pope.

Roll 7. Custance, wife of John Borham.

Roll 19. Joan, wife of Robert Sweyn.

Roll 21. Isabella, wife of John Tymyot.

Sixth. Release.

Roll 8. Robert Sewale to Robert Teye and others.

Seventh. Testaments enrolled.

Roll 12. John Atte Wode.

Roll 23. Robert Whytlove.

Roll 14. William Fychett.

Eighth. Corporation Grants, Demises, &c.

Roll 2. To John Granger, the Cellar of the Hall, and the Weighing of Wool, and the liberty of placing Stalls and Tables in the Garden of the Hall at the Fair on the day of the Nativity of S^t. John Baptist, and at Michaelmas, for eight marks per annum.

Roll 18. To John Plomer, a piece of land near S^t. Helen's Pit, which was formerly of John Hampton and Margaret his Wife, at three shillings rent.

2ND HENRY IV.

Twenty-four Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests on 1, 8, and 15.

Second. Burgesses admitted, Thirteen. Seven at 20s., one at 23s. 4d., one at 26s. 8d., one at 30s., three at 40s.

Third. From this date Roll 1 begins with a list of the Corporate Officers, Bailiffs, Auditors, Coroners, Claviers, and Council (17). Four Serjeants' Election and Recognizances on Roll 1. Receiver Roll 13. Tolls let for £40. New Crane, &c., for £39. Cellar, &c., at New Hall, ten marks.

Fourth. Acknowledgment of Joan, wife of John Middlejohan, Roll 19.

Fifth. Releases enrolled.

Roll 8. William, son and heir of John Stephen, to John Herry.

Roll 24. John Danwe to John Goode.

Sixth. Testaments.

Roll 4. William Bergholte.

Roll 13. John Pope.

Roll 5. Philip Hastings.

Roll 19. Hugh Bokenham.

Roll 8. Michael Aubre.

Clement Cok.

Roll 10. John Haux.

5TH HENRY IV.

Rolls numbered to 30, of which 1, 2, and 3 are lost, two numbered 23.

First. Leet Inquests, 12 and 20.

Second. Seven Burgesses admitted. Five at 20s., one at 23s. 4d., one at 26s. 8d.

Third. Corporate Officers' names, &c., and Toll demise lost.

Fourth. Acknowledgments.

Roll 14. Joan, wife of Robert Pope.

Roll 23. Joan, wife of Thomas Gibbe.

Roll 27. Agnes, wife of John Deen.

Fifth. Releases.

Roll 7. Executors of John Thurgore to William West Brome and others.

John Baroun to Richard Houlet and others.

On Roll 28, a Release by John Hastings, of Crowmer, otherwise Schipden, in Norfolk, of Lands there, and at Fellbrigg, and other places in Norfolk, is enrolled. Why, is not stated.

On Roll 23, a remarkable case of the Bailiffs and Town Court proceeding to judgment, and committing defendants to prison, notwithstanding a Protection from the King produced by them. The ground taken by the Town authorities was, that the protection was for the male defendant when in the service of the Admiral on the *High Seas*, and as he was not there, but in Court, it was no use to him.

6TH HENRY IV.

Half of the first Roll is gone; the Rolls then follow in regular order to the eighth, which is lost, and then again to the twenty-sixth, all the rest are lost. There were originally thirty-two.

First. Leet Inquests on 1, 10, and 21.

Second. Eighteen Burgesses admitted. Nine at 20s., four at 23s. 4d., one at 24s., three at 26s. 8d., one at 33s. 4d.

Third. To the list of Officers, the Chamberlain and Town Clerk are now added. Part of the Serjeants' Recognizances remain, but the Toll demises are torn off Roll 1.

Fourth. Assize of Bread in February (21).

Fifth. Acknowledgments enrolled.

Roll 20. Philippa, wife of John Brid.

Roll 24. Katherine, wife of John Crouchman.

Sixth. No Testaments or Corporate Grants.

N.B. Thursday as the Foreign Court Day first on these Rolls.

7TH HENRY IV.

Thirty-six Rolls in regular order.

First. Leet Inquests on 1, 13, and 25.

Second. Twenty-three Burgesses admitted. Four at 20s., seven at 23s. 4d., six at 26s. 8d., three at 30s., two at 33s. 8d., and one at 40s., who had forfeited his liberty by "rebellion" against the Corporation, but it was restored on submission. One Burgess was admitted free (in addition to the above) on proof of his free birth at Greenstede.

Third. Tolls let for £40, Cranage for £29, Wool Cellar for ten marks, Lastage at New Hythe 20s.

Fourth. Assize of Bread on 18 and 29.

Fifth. Acknowledgments enrolled.

Roll 9. Joan, wife of John Seburgh.

Roll 13. Agnes, wife of Richard Buk.

Roll 23. Margery, wife of Matthew Sayer.

Christina, wife of Thomas Godston.

Margery, wife of Robert Smyth.

Roll 24. Alice, wife of John Organer.

Roll 25. Eleanor, wife of John Churcheball.

Sixth. Releases enrolled.

Roll 9. Thomas Whot to Richard Warener.

Roll 20. Thomas Fraunceys and others to John Purchas.

John Rothing and Robert Boloigne to Thomas Fraunceys.

Roll 35. John Delvere, son and heir to Simon, to John Plomer and another.

Seventh. No Testaments or Grants enrolled.

8TH HENRY IV.

Thirty-two Rolls complete.

First. Leet Inquests on Rolls 1, 10, and 21.

Second. Seventy-one Burgesses admitted. Forty-eight at 20s., thirteen at 23s. 4d., four at 26s. 8d., one at 30s., one at 33s. 4d., one at 46s. 8d., one at £4 ; two of the sums are illegible.

Third. Tolls let for £40, Cranage for £34, Wool Cellar for eleven marks, and Lastage for 20s.

Fourth. Assize of Bread on Roll 24.

Fifth. Acknowledgments enrolled.

Roll 15. Emma, wife of David Chapman.

Roll 18. Claricia, wife of John Goode.

Sixth. Release.

Roll 20. Henry Basse to Robert Stodeley.

Seventh. Testaments enrolled.

Roll 4. John Arnold.

Roll 16. William Greenway.

Roll 18. John Colne.

Eighth. Corporate Grants, &c.

Roll 32. Demise to William Horn of a Butcher's Stall in Market, at two shillings rent.

Grant and Licence to Stephen Flysp, John Plomer, John Mabbeson, and others, to build a foot bridge at New Hythe, of Wood, of one span, so as not to prevent boats going to the Bridge at East Street, and not to make it a bridge for Carts, &c.

11TH HENRY IV.

Rolls 3, 15 to 20 inclusive, and 29 to 37 inclusive, remain.

First. Part of the Leet Inquest for Michaelmas on Roll 3, and part of Hilary on 15.

Second. One Burgess's admission only remaining, fine 26s. 8d. On 31 a claim on proof of Birth.

Third. All relating to Tolls, Officers, &c., lost.

Fourth. Acknowledgments.

Roll 19. Alicia, wife of John Seburgh.

Roll 32. Elizabeth, wife of John Northwode.

Fifth. Testament enrolled.

Roll 35. William Coupere.

Sixth. Corporation Grant.

Roll 35. To Thomas Jakelot a vacant place in Maydenburgh Street, opposite St. Helen's Chapel.

13TH HENRY IV.

Thirty-seven Rolls complete.

First. Leet Inquests on Rolls 1, 13, and 23.

Second. Twelve Burgesses admitted. Three at 20s., four at 23s. 4d., four at 26s. 8d., one at 30s.

Third. List of Corporation and Election of Serjeants. Roll 1. Demises, Wool Hall fourteen marks, Town Tolls £15, Hythe Tolls, Measurage, &c., £48.

Fourth. Assize of Bread in Hilary. Roll 12.

Fifth. Acknowledgments.

Roll 3. Eleanor, wife of Edmund Tyrell, of the "Falcon."

Roll 12. Katherine, wife of John Crouchman.

Roll 21. Joan, wife of Richard Chamberlain.

Roll 25. Katherine, wife of John Crouchman.

Roll 32. Margaret, wife of Thomas Mayneld.

Roll 33. Margaret, wife of Thomas Mayneld.

Joan, wife of Richard Warner.

Sixth. Release.

Roll 30. Thomas Ardlegh to Peter Smyth, and Peter Smyth to John Algood.

Seventh. Testaments.

Roll 9. John Polstead.

Roll 15. Alice Chambre.

Roll 20. Alice Strengre.

Roll 25. William Chamberlain.

In Roll 33 is an Inquisition on a claim of Right of Way over Baker's Land, in Lexden, belonging to Joseph Elianor's Chantry, near Stone Crouch Lane.

1ST AND 2ND HENRY V.

Numbered to 47, of which Nos. 31 and 33 are lost, and there are two of each of Nos. 6 and 38.

First. Leet Inquests on Rolls 1, 18, and 32.

Second. Twenty Burgesses admitted. Eight at 20s., five at 26s. 8d., seven at 33s. 4d.

Third. Officers' Elections and Tolls as on last Rolls.

Fourth. Acknowledgments.

Roll 6. Alice, wife of William Straunge.

Roll 20. Joan, wife of Andrew Blackman.

Roll 35. Margaret, wife of George Bryghtfed.

Roll 36. Alice, wife of John Lackford.

Fifth. Testaments enrolled.

Roll 6. Richard Dyggyns.

Roll 40. Thomas Slade.

Roll 15. Robert Beste.

Roll 44. Simon Slade.

Roll 28. Alice Stoneman.

Sixth. Corporation Grant.

Roll 39. Grant to Clement Aungevyn and Thomas Ryver Clerk of a Tenement at the Castle Gate ; see Roll 6 of 37th Edward III., rent twopence.

N.B. These Rolls, containing many important Presentments about the Commons, &c., was for many years in the Chest of St. Mary's Church.

4TH AND 5TH HENRY V.

Numbered to 46, of which 1, 2, 16, 17, 29, 30, 39 lost, and there are two marked " 36."

First. Part of Michaelmas Leet Inquest on 3, part of Hilary on 18, Hookday Leet on 31.

Second. Eight Burgesses admitted. Four at 20s., two at 23s. 4d., one at 26s. 8d., and one at £3. 6s. 8d.

Third. No record of Officers or Demise of Tolls.

Fourth. Acknowledgments.

Roll 35. Alice, wife of Walter Ketel.

Roll 43. Isabella, wife of Thomas Asteley, of Melton Constable, Norfolk, and Widow of Andrew Beche, of Colchester.

Roll 44. Joan, wife of Richard Stodele.

Fifth. Testaments enrolled.

Roll 35. Richard Parrok.

Roll 44. Roger Spendel.

Roll 45. Thomas Fraunceys.

Katherine Cotell.

6TH AND 7TH HENRY V.

Thirty-four Rolls regularly numbered, but one Roll found in Record Room clearly belonging to this year, and coming between the Rolls numbered 28 and 29, is now replaced, after, probably, three centuries and a half divorcement and much ill-usage.

First. Leet Inquests on 1, 14, and 24.

Second. Twenty-seven Burgesses. Twenty-three at 20s., two at 23s. 4d., one at 26s. 8d., and one at 40s.

Third. Officers, &c., on Roll 1. Tolls and Woolhall £9, Town Tolls £16, Hythe Tolls, &c., £48.

Fourth. Acknowledgments enrolled.

Roll 11. Agnes, wife of John Merild.

Roll 19. Katherine, wife of John Haselwood.

Roll 26. Dionisia, wife of William Vynt.

Roll 28. Katherine, wife of Henry Cranmer.

Fifth. Releases, &c.

Roll 20. Executors of John Haselwood to William Nicholas and others.

Roll 33. Final Concord. Joan, daughter of Simou Spilling and others.

Sixth. Testaments enrolled.

Roll 19. John Haselwood.

Roll 31. Roger Thursteyn.

Roll 20. John Roger.

Richard Buk.

Roll 30. John Stace.

Roll 32. Walter Fitz Yve.

Roger Barker.

Roll 33. John Clyff.

Seventh. Corporation Grant.

Roll 22. The Bailiffs, with assent and consent of Aldermen, grant to Robert Wright and others a small piece of waste at New Hythe, for fourpence rent.

7TH AND 8TH HENRY V.

Thirty-two Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests on Rolls 1, 10, and 21.

Second. Sixteen Burgesses admitted. Ten at 20s., three at 23s. 4d., three at 26s. 8d.

Third. Officers, &c., on Roll 1. Woolhall let for £9, Town Tolls £16, Hythe, &c., £40.

Fourth. Acknowledgments.

Roll 7. Alice, wife of John Algood.

Roll 15. Isabella, wife of John Mussell.

- Roll 20. Cecilia, wife of John Sywall.
 Roll 30. Agnes, wife of John Canoun (two).

Fifth. Testament enrolled.

Roll 15. John Canteler.

Sixth. Corporation Grants, &c.

Roll 24. To John Saveryn, Barber, a Stall, twopence rent.

Roll 25. To William Bertelot a piece of land by Castle Ditch, rent twelvepence.

On Roll 12 is an Arbitration by the Supervisors of Land, "the Landlokers," with consent of parties, on precept of Bailiffs, as to a right of way.

Roll 32. Writ of right by the Prior of S^t. Botolph against Robert Hanley, and Joan his wife, for land in Lexden.

1ST AND 2ND HENRY VI.

Twenty-eight Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests on 1, 11, and 19.

Second. Twenty-one Burgesses admitted. Ten at 20s., five at 23s. 4d., five at 26s. 8d., one at 33s. 4d.

Third. Officers, &c., first Roll. Rents, Woolhall £8, Town Tolls £16, Hythe £20, Crane, &c., £20.

Fourth. Acknowledgment.

Roll 5. Marion, wife of John Brandon.

Fifth. Release.

Roll 21. Richard Drenge to his Grandson, Thomas Drenge.

Sixth. Testaments enrolled.

Roll 14. John Goldeford.

Roll 17. John Sparwe.

Roll 15. William Boe.

Roll 22. John Baroun.

Seventh. Assize of Bread in January. Roll 10.

2ND AND 3RD HENRY VI.

Numbered to 33, but Rolls 1 and 2 lost.

First. Leet Inquests on 10 and 19.

Second. Twelve Burgesses admitted. Nine at 20s., two at 23s. 4d., one at 26s. 8d.

Third. Record of Officers and Tolls lost.

Fourth. Acknowledgments enrolled.

Roll 30. Agnes, wife of John Swanton.
Margaret, wife of Richard Bryd.

Fifth. Testaments.

Roll 16.	John Lylye.	Roll 33.	John Gardiner.
Roll 17.	Richard Hache.		John Swayn.
	Thomas Dykon.		Isabella Stalam.
Roll 30.	Walter Whytehede.		

Sixth. Corporation Grant.

Roll 32. To John Stephen, vacant land in Maydenburgh Street, next Castle Ditch, rent sixteen pence.

3RD AND 4TH HENRY VI.

Numbered to 39. Roll 1 lost.

First. Leet Inquests on 14 and 24.

Second. Twenty-one Burgesses admitted. Thirteen at 20s., seven at 21s. 8d., one at 23s. 4d.

Third. Officers, &c., on lost Roll 1.

Fourth. Acknowledgments.

Roll 31. Matilda, wife of Clement Augevyns.
Roll 35. Joan, wife of Nicholas Berners.
Roll 38. Christina Fraunceys.

Fifth. Testaments.

Roll 27. Thomas Marchaunt.
Roll 33. John Carter.
Roll 39. Christina Godston.

Sixth. Release.

Roll 21. John Pebemersh and others to Robert Evesyng.

On Roll 16 dorse are New Constitutions of Cordwainers, and on 27 the Masters of Craft are sworn in compliance with them.

4TH AND 5TH HENRY VI.

Twenty-eight Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests on 1, 12, and 20.

Second. Twenty-six Burgesses admitted. One at 23s. 4d., the rest at 20s.

Third. Officers, &c., on Roll 1. Rents, Woolhall £8, Tolls £16, Hythe ditto £22, Crane £22.

Fourth. Acknowledgments enrolled.

Roll 4. Elena, wife of John Algood.

Marion, wife of Thomas Atwood.

Roll 24. Margaret, wife of Richard Wylde.

Fifth. Release.

Roll 14. Thomas Graunger to William Fynderne.

Sixth. Testaments.

Roll 4. Richard Dreng, otherwise Parker.

Roll 2. Robert Wryght.

Seventh. Corporation Demise.

Roll 4. To Peter Fretheman, Fuller, a piece of land in Moor Street, at one penny rent.

5TH AND 6TH HENRY VI.

Numbered to 31. Rolls 1, 2, 3, 13, and 14 lost.

First. Leet Inquest, Hokeday on 23.

Second. Eight Burgesses' admissions at 20s., except one at 26s. 8d.

Third. Officers and Toll Demises on lost Rolls.

Fourth. Acknowledgments.

Roll 4. Margaret, wife of John Lambherede.

Roll 15. Goodleef, wife of John Gardyner.

Agnes, wife of William Northaw.

Fifth. Testaments.

Roll 4. Katherine Deynes.

Roger Baker.

Richard Balsham.

Roll 20. John Prentys.

Richard Bawde.

6TH AND 7TH HENRY VI.

Numbered to 32, but Rolls 1, 2, and 13 lost.

First. Leet Inquests on 14 and 22.

Second. Eight Burgesses admitted at 20s., except one at 26s. 8d.

Third. Roll of Officers and Tolls lost.

Fourth. Releases.

- Roll 3. John Pebemersh to Katherine Lylye.
 Executors of Andrew Danell to William Mate and others.
 Roll 30. John Plomer to John Auntrons, &c.

Fifth. Testaments enrolled.

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| Roll 14. Edmund Rysby. | Roll 30. Robert Rykes. |
| Roll 22. John Pake. | Roll 31. John Goybe. |
| Roll 26. Nicholas Creeke. | Roll 32. Thomas Wellys. |
| Roll 30. John Taseler. | |

7TH AND 8TH HENRY VI.

Rolls 2, 36, 37, lost, the rest numbered to 35 remain.

First. Leet Inquests on 14 and 22.

Second. Ten Burgesses' admissions remain. One at 33s. 4d., one at 26s. 8d., two at 23s. 4d., the rest at 20s.

Third. Officers elected and Serjeants' recognizances on Roll 1. Woolhall let for £8, Tolls £16, Hythe ditto £44.

Fourth. Acknowledgments.

- Roll 5. Sabina, wife of Thomas Palfreyman.
 Roll 11. Isabella, wife of John Rykedon.
 Roll 24. Constance, wife of Henry Downe.
 Margaret, wife of John Taseler.
 Roll 25. Isabella, wife of John Rykedon.

Fifth. Release.

Roll 22. Peter Cook to John Beche, senior.

Sixth. Testaments enrolled.

- Roll 4. Andrew Boyle.
 Roll 24. William Rodelond.
 Roll 35. Alexander Erpingham.

8TH AND 9TH HENRY VI.

Thirty-four Rolls in good order.

First. Leet Inquests on 2, 13, and 23.

Second. Seventeen Burgesses admitted. Two at 26s. 8d., six at 23s. 4d., one at 21s. 8d., and the rest at 20s.

Third. Officers, &c., on Roll 1. Woolhall let for £6, Town Tolls for £14, Hythe ditto for £23 and £23.

Fourth. Acknowledgments.

- Roll 17. Joan, wife of John Ronge.
- Roll 18. Matilda, wife of Peter Smyth.
- Roll 22. Rose, wife of Adam Spilling.

Fifth. Testaments enrolled.

- Roll 4. Robert Fuller.
- Roll 17. Roger Cherchewan.

Sixth. Corporation Grants, &c.

- Roll 22. To John Bulcote, a vacant place West of All Saints' Rectory, for ten shillings rent.
- To Richard Bryd, a Piece of Land next North Gate, on the West side, for fourpence rent.

10TH AND 11TH HENRY VI.

One Leet Roll, No. 8.

11TH AND 12TH HENRY VI.

Thirty-five Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests on 2, 12, and 21.

Second. Twelve Burgesses admitted. One at 40s., one at 23s. 4d., the rest at 20s.

Third. Officers, &c., Roll 1. Woolhall rent left blank, Town Tolls £18, Hythe ditto £25, Crane, &c., £25.

Fourth. Acknowledgment.

Roll 31. Alianor, wife of John Smyth.

Fifth. Releases.

- Roll 13. Laurence Neve to Gilbert Hunt.
- Roll 18. Richard Withermersh and others to William Gasewey.
- Roll 19. Joan, late wife of Roger Kyrkton, to John Doreward and others.

Sixth. Testaments.

- Roll 3. Richard Rede.
- Roll 14. William Notyngnam.
- Roll 20. Richard Botysford.

On Roll 34, John Sayer, and Joan his wife, and Robert King, and Alice his wife (the women being co-heiresses of a Messuage, &c.), went before the Bailiffs, who, with the aid of the Supervisors, or "Landlokers," of the town, made a severance "according to the custom."

13TH AND 14TH HENRY VI.

Twenty-nine Rolls in order.

First. Leet Inquests on 1, 11, and 19. An "Inquest of Liberties" in August, and Assize of Bread, on Roll 28.

Second. Sixteen Burgesses admitted. Three at 40s., one at 23s. 4d., the rest at 20s.

Third. Officers, &c., Roll 1. Town Tolls £12, Hythe £52.

Fourth. Acknowledgments enrolled.

Roll 3. Joan, wife of John Denychangre.

Roll 7. Joan, wife of Richard Sparke.

Roll 12. Margery, wife of John Hunte.

14TH AND 15TH HENRY VI.

Thirty Rolls in good order.

First. Leet Inquests on 1, 11, and 19.

Second. Seven Burgesses admitted. One at 26s. 8d., the rest at 20s.

Third. Officers, &c., on 1st Roll. Woolhall let for £6, Town Tolls for £12, Hythe ditto for £26, Crane, &c., £26.

Fourth. Acknowledgments.

Roll 14. Christina, wife of John Romayn.

Roll 16. Cristina, wife of John Odylyshe.

Roll 27. Beatrice, wife of Thomas Marchaunt.

Roll 30. Elena, wife of John Drewe.

Fifth. Testament enrolled.

Roll 26. Robert Abraham.

15TH AND 16TH HENRY VI.

Numbered to 32, but No. 3 lost.

First. Leet Inquests on 1, 10, and 18.

Second. Only one Burgess's admission at 26s. 8d.

Third. Officers, &c., 1st Roll. Woolhall let for £6, Town Tolls £12, Hythe £52.

Fourth. Acknowledgment.

Roll 30. Isabella, wife of Thomas Asteley.

Fifth. Testaments.

Roll 16. John Carter, senior.

John Tanner.

Roll 20. John Pod, senior.

Sixth. Corporation Grants, &c.

Roll 32. To Thomas Smyth a vacant place at New Hythe for sixty years, at four shillings rent.
To John Bordemale a vacant place at Eldelond for sixpence rent.
To John Chapman a void place outside Head Gate, under the Stone Wall, rent fourteenpence.

16TH AND 17TH HENRY VI.

Fifty Rolls, except 16 or 17, a Roll being placed between 15 and 18 not having a number.

First. Leet Inquests on 2, 18, and 30.

Second. Thirteen Burgesses admitted at 20s. each.

Third. Officers, &c., 1st Roll. Woolhall rent £7, Town Tolls £12, Hythe, &c., £52.

Fourth. Acknowledgment.

Roll 4. Joan, wife of John Olyver.

Fifth. Testament.

Roll 32. John Church.

Sixth. Corporation Grant.

Roll 20. To Richard Walpole of an encroachment at East Bridge, rent sixpence.

On Roll 18, a dispute between "neighbour and neighbour" as to boundary, is settled before the Bailiffs by the Inspectors of Lands and Tenements, or "Land-lokers."

17TH AND 18TH HENRY VI.

Thirty-nine Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests on 3, 16, and 27.

Second. Sixteen Burgesses admitted. One at 40s., one at 26s. 8d., two at 23s. 4d., the rest at 20s.

Third. Officers, &c., Roll 1. Woolhall let for £7, Town Tolls £13, Hythe, &c., £56.

Fourth. Acknowledgments.

Roll 5. Marian, wife of William Norton.

Roll 29. Isabella, wife of Thomas Dore.

Fifth. Release.

Roll 19. William Godston to John Godston.

Sixth. Testaments.

Roll 6. Richard Chamberlyn.
Agnes King.

18TH AND 19TH HENRY VI.

Twenty-nine Rolls, less No. 5, lost.

First. Leet Inquests on 2, 14, and 22.

Second. Seven Burgesses admitted. One at 26s. 8d., the rest at 20s.

Third. Officers, &c., on Roll 1. Woolhall let for £6, Town Tolls for £12, Hythe for £44.

Fourth. Acknowledgments.

Roll 10. Joan, wife of John Olyver.
Roll 12. Joan, wife of John Clerk, Junior.
Roll 18. Idonea, wife of Thomas Jakelot.
Joan, wife of John Upclam.
Roll 19. Ann, wife of Thomas Goode.
Roll 21. Joan, wife of William Mayhew.
Roll 27. Christina, wife of Walter Gyles.
Roll 29. Ann, wife of Thomas Goode.
Agatha, wife of Robert Sent.

Fifth. Testament.

Roll 15. John Fordham.

Sixth. Corporation Grants, &c.

Roll 3. To John Ronge a piece of land in West Stokwell Street, for fifteenpence rent.
To Henry Wygore and others, the like, at thirtepenence.

Roll 25. John Heyward, senior, surrendered a Tenement at the West Gate of the Castle to the use of John Ronge, to hold of the Bailiffs by the Rod, and twopence rent.

21ST AND 22ND HENRY VI.

In regular order to No. 21, with part of 22, two "19."

First. Leet Inquests on 2, 9, and 15.

Second. Fourteen Burgesses admitted. Two at 26s. 8d., four at 23s. 4d., and the rest at 20s.

Third. Officers, &c., on Roll 1. Town Tolls let for £12, Hythe for £52.

Fourth. Acknowledgments.

Roll 5. Joan, wife of Thomas Mulling.
Roll 18. Agnes, wife of James Ermond.

Fifth. Testament.

Roll 19. John Prior.

Sixth. Corporation Grants.

Roll 5. To John Bulcote a piece of land next the Pinfold, at twelvepence rent.

Roll 17. To Robert Hintlesham the next piece for twenty-two pence rent (stated to have been the Pinfold).

N.B. One John Pykedon presented for concealing treasure trove found in his garden of ten marks value.

22ND AND 23RD HENRY VI.

Twenty-four Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests on 2, 10, and 16.

Second. Nine Burgesses admitted at 20s., except one at 26s. 8d.

Third. Officers, &c., Roll 1. Woolhall let for £10, Town Tolls for £10, Hythe, &c., £52.

Fourth. Acknowledgment.

Roll 9. Joan, wife of Robert Cook.

Fifth. Testament of Elias Baker.

Sixth. Release by John Auntrons to Thomas Oskyn and others.

23RD AND 24TH HENRY VI.

Numbered to 30, but 1, 3, 12, and 26 lost. No. 2 found and replaced.

First. Leet Inquests on 2, 13, and 26.

Second. Eighteen Burgesses admitted at 20s., except one at 26s. 8d.

Third. No List of Officers or record of Toll Demises.

Fourth. Acknowledgments.

Roll 4. Isabella, wife of John Trewe.

Roll 11. Beatrice, wife of John Valent.

Roll 15. Margery, wife of William Chopyn.

Roll 20. Joan, wife of John Cook.

Roll 24. Dionisia, wife of John Baroun.

Fifth. Releases.

Roll 20. Agnes Avitrons to John Avitrons and five others.

Roll 28. Eleanor Mate to John Beche and William Smyth.

25TH AND 26TH HENRY VI.

Twenty-two numbered, but of these 1, 2, 3 are lost.

First. Leet Inquests on 11 and 17.

Second. Two Burgesses on existing Rolls, 20s. each.

Third. No List of Officers or Demises of Tolls left.

Fourth. Acknowledgments.

Roll 23. Joan, wife of Robert Cook.
Joan, wife of John Sewale.
Joan, wife of Thomas Fielde.

Fifth. Testaments.

Roll 9. John Clerk.
Roll 10. John Thursteyn.
Roll 22. Richard Beche.

Sixth. Release.

Roll 12. Agnes Avitrous to John her son.

26TH AND 27TH HENRY VI.

Twenty-six Rolls remaining.

First. Leet Inquests on 2, 10, and 18.

Second. Seven Burgesses paid 23s. 4d. each.

Third. Officers, &c., Roll 1. Woolhall rent blank, Town Tolls blank, Hythe &c., £52.

Fourth. Acknowledgments.

Roll 9. Joan, wife of Thomas Fuller.
Roll 12. Joan, wife of John Bateman.
Roll 16. Alice, wife of John Badcock.
Margaret, wife of John Smyth.

Fifth. Releases.

Roll 9. John Edrich and others to Robert Spence.
Roll 12. Alice, Widow of John Pod, senior, to Anne Greene.
Roll 16. Thomas Fuller and others to Thomas Godfrey.
Roll 22. John Turnour to Thomas Braunche.
Katherine, widow of Robert Seburgh, to Roger Wike and others.

Sixth. Testaments.

Roll 4. Augustine Bonefaunt.	Roll 9. Joan, wife of Clement Comber.
Roll 9. William King.	Roll 12. John Bishop, John Trew.

27TH AND 28TH HENRY VI.

Twenty-three Rolls, of which the 9th lost, and five were found in different places and restored.

First. Leet Inquests on 2, 8 (part of Hilary), and 15.

Second. Eight Burgesses admitted at 23s. 4d., and one at 40s.

Third. Officers, &c., Roll 1. Woolhall let for £8, Town Tolls £10, Hythe, &c., £48.

Fourth. Acknowledgments.

Roll 10. Alice, wife of John Strut.

Joan, wife of John Foote.

Rolls 22 & 23. Alice, wife of John Boteler.

Dionisia, wife of John Prymerole.

Katherine, wife of Robert Spalding.

Fifth. Releases enrolled.

Roll 10. Matilda Reshe and others to Edmund Fuller.

Robert Silby and others to Matilda Reshe and others.

Roll 22. William Gant and Richard Barker to Robert Spalding and wife.

The same to John Boteler and wife.

Roll 23. The same to John Prymerole and wife.

Sixth. Testament.

Roll 10. Thomas Baker.

The next year, "Jack Cade's Rebellion" year, is missing, and the year following.

30TH AND 31ST HENRY VI.

First. Leet Inquests on 2, 11, and 19.

Second. Sixteen Burgesses admitted. Six at 23s. 4d., two at 30s., seven at 20s., one gratis, by advice of the Council, and sworn "*de novo*," readmitted, in fact.

Third. Officers, &c., on 1st Roll, and Supervisors of Butchers, Fish Merchants, and Chandlers sworn. No Toll Demises.

Fourth. Acknowledgments.

Roll 4. Matilda, wife of Geoffrey Rokell.

Roll 17. Joan, wife of John Horndon.

Roll 18. Joan, wife of John Onger.

Roll 28. Joan, wife of John Gooday.

Fifth. Releases.

Roll 14. Joan, Widow of Thomas Fuller, to Thomas West and others.

- Roll 16. William Clerk to John Colman.
 Roll 18. William Parson, senior, and others to William Foorde.
 Roll 24. William Cook to William, Abbot of St. John's.

Sixth. Testaments enrolled.

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| Roll 5. John Davy, Dyer. | Roll 15. Cristina Bonefaunt. |
| Roll 13. John Sabey. | Roll 16. John Odyshoo. |

Seventh. Corporation Grants.

- Roll 29. To Christina, widow of John Odyshoo, a vacant place of land in St. Peter's, at twelve-pence rent. Fine (blank).
 Roll 18. An arbitration on boundaries between neighbours.
 Roll 25. Richard Stanton binds himself to Robert Boteler, "Cordener," for six years, to learn the art, and receive bed and board, linen and woollen clothes, and twenty shillings at the end of the term, and a bed value ten shillings.
 Roll 12. Sir John Fastolf, Knight, defendant for a debt.

31ST AND 32ND HENRY VI.

Numbered to 25, but No. 5 lost.

First. Leet Inquests on 2, 11, 18.

Second. Eighteen Burgesses admitted. Three at 23s. 4d., one at 21s. 8d., the rest at 20s.

Third. Officers, &c., Roll 1. No Demises of Tolls.

Fourth. Acknowledgments.

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| Roll 21. Isabella, wife of John Sabey. | Roll 25. Margaret, wife of John Smith. |
| Eleanor, wife of John Weston. | Matilda, wife of John Fuller. |
| Joan, wife of Thomas Field. | |

Fifth. Releases enrolled.

- Roll 9. Thomas Kimburle to William Forde.
 Roll 19. John Sabey to Isabella, his mother.

Sixth. Testament.

- Roll 23. Agnes March.

Seventh. Recognizances for Yarn, to Chamberlain.

34TH AND 35TH HENRY VI.

Twenty-eight Rolls complete.

First. Leet Inquests on 2, 12, and 19.

Second. Eight Burgesses admitted. One at 26s. 8d., two at 23s. 4d., and the rest at 20s.

Third. Officers, &c., on Roll 1. Woolhall and Butter Stalls let for £17, Hythe Tolls for £42. Constables and Supervisors sworn. Roll 2.

Fourth. Assize of Bread, Saturday before Palm Sunday, 15.

Fifth. Acknowledgments.

Roll 3. Dionisia, wife of William atte Sond.

Roll 4. Margery, wife of William Smyth.

Roll 7. Joan, wife of William Hornedon.

Roll 13. Joan, wife of Thomas Fielde.

Roll 16. Alice, wife of John Neuporte.

Joan, wife of Thomas Feelde.

Roll 17. Sara, wife of John Colyn.

Roll 26. Cristina, wife of John Serjeant.

Roll 27. Isabella, wife of John Greenhill (two).

Roll 28. Margery, wife of John Sonde.

Sixth. Testament.

Roll 22. John Prymerole.

Seventh. On Rolls 17, 18, and 22 are Arbitrations on boundaries by Supervisors of Lands under direction of the Bailiffs.

35TH AND 36TH HENRY IV.

Twenty-seven Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests on 1, 10, and 19.

Second. Three Burgesses admitted at 26s. 8d., one at 20s.

Third. Officers, &c., Roll 1. Constables and Supervisors of Coriour's Craft on 2. Woolhall and Tolls (except Hythe and Fair on Pardon Sunday) £17, Hythe, &c., £44. Roll 1.

Fourth. Assize of Bread in November. Roll 7.

Fifth. Acknowledgments.

Roll 7. Alice, wife of John Clement.

Roll 14. Katherine, wife of John Fen.

Roll 18. Alice, wife of William Wheeler.

Sixth. Releases.

Roll 16. Nicholas Floret, alias Lock, to Simon Parker and others.

Roll 19. John Stephen (son and heir of John) to Richard Withermersh. A certificate, called a Letter Testimonial, by Henry Stamp and others, in proof of friendship, accompanies this Release.

Seventh. Testament.

Roll 21. John Pod.

Eighth. Arbitrations by Supervisors on 13 and 21.

Ninth. Corporation Grants, &c.

Roll 18. To John Ramedwe of a piece of land now built on, next Town Wall, in the way leading from North Sherd to North Gate. Rent eightpence.

Surrender by him to John Payn, at same rent.

Roll 23. Bailiff elected in place of John Beche, deceased. William Saxe elected.

Roll 26. William Somerset paid a fine of 20^s. for scandalous words used of Bailiffs and Aldermen against Ordinances.

36TH AND 37TH HENRY VI.

First. Leet Inquests on 12 and 19.

Second. Three Burgesses' admissions at 20s., one at 26s. 8d.

Third. Officers, &c., and Toll demises gone.

Fourth. Assize of Bread in February (Roll 15), March (18), and Midsummer (27).

Fifth. Acknowledgments enrolled.

Roll 15. Katherine, wife of Robert Spalding.

Anne, wife of Walter Oldhall.

Roll 27. Marion, wife of William Norton.

Roll 30. Joan, wife of Roger Lytewyn.

Olive, wife of John Holme.

Sixth. Testament.

Roll 27. Walter Ramyfen.

Seventh. Corporation Grant.

Roll 29. To Richard Welde and others on surrender of Thomas Cent of a piece of land built on in Maydenburgh Street, opposite S^t. Helen's Chapel, and a Tenement in S^t. Nicholas in same street, opposite the door of the Tenement pertaining to same Chapel, to hold by the rod at sixteenpence rent.

Eighth. Pie Poudré Courts fully recorded on 21 and 22, the first met with, and very full and minute.

Roll 28. Curious Inventory of Goods seized in execution.

37TH AND 38TH HENRY VI.

Now amounting to 24 Rolls, the two first found elsewhere and restored.

First. Leet Inquests on 1, 9, and 15.

Second. Ten Burgesses admitted. One at 26s. 8d., four at 23s. 4d., and the rest at 20s.

Third. Officers, &c., Roll 1. Woolhall, &c., let for £18, Hythe £43.

Fourth. Assize of Bread, November (5), February (11), March (17), and September (24).

Fifth. Acknowledgments.

Roll 8. Margaret, wife of William Smyth.

Roll 13. Mary, wife of William Helder.

Roll 18. Joan, wife of John Watre.

Roll 24. Margaret, wife of John Kide.

Sixth. Release.

Roll 21. Richard Boreham and others to Robert Beche and Joan his wife.

Seventh. Corporation Grant.

To Simon Baldewyn and others of Tenement at the West Gate of Castle, rent twopence.

Eighth. Pie Poudré Courts on 24.

38TH AND 39TH HENRY VI.

Twenty-six Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests on 1, 11, and 17.

Second. Ten Burgesses admitted. One at 40s., one at 33s. 4d., one at 26s. 8d., the rest at 20s.

Third. Officers, &c., Roll 1. Woolhall, &c., let for £18, Hythe (blank).

Fourth. Assize of Bread, Epiphany (8), Easter (17).

Fifth. Acknowledgments.

Roll 3. Margaret, wife of Edward Fuller.

Roll 4. Alice, wife of John Levyngton.

Roll 6. Margery, wife of John Hunt.

Roll 7. Joan, wife of Geoffrey Dorivall.

Roll 10. Agnes, wife of Thomas Avery.

Rolls 21 & 24. Marion, wife of William Norton.

Roll 24. Joan, wife of John Horndon.

Sixth. Testament.

Roll 13. William Smith.

Seventh. Corporation Grant.

Roll 24. To John Calver, Agnes his wife, and others, on Surrender of Simon Baldwyn of a Tenement at West Gate of Castle, rent twopence.

Eighth. Pie Poudré Courts.

- Roll 8. Thursday after S^t. Katherine.
- Roll 9. Monday before S^t. Thomas.
- Roll 22. S^t. John's Day.
- Roll 25. Vigil of S^t. James and two following days.

39TH HENRY VI. AND 1ST EDWARD IV.

Twenty-five Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests on 1, 10, and 16.

Second. Four Burgesses admitted at 20s., and one at 23s. 4d.

Third. Officers, &c., Roll 1. Woolhall let for £10, Town Tolls for £9, Hythe for £29.

Fourth. Assize of Bread, November (5), December (6), Thursday before Easter (15).

Fifth. Acknowledgments.

- Roll 9. Margaret, wife of William Aylmer.
- Roll 15. Alice, wife of William Duke.
Katherine, wife of John Huntingdon.
Margaret, wife of John Sonde.
- Roll 18. Alice, wife of John Rammedwe.
- Roll 25. Joan, wife of Thomas Bushe.

Sixth. Releases.

- Roll 15. John Premerole to John Met and others.
Thomas Woode to William, Abbot of S^t. John's (Land in Burgh Fields).

Seventh. Pie Poudré Courts.

- Roll 10. Thursday after Hilary, at 11 o'clock.
- Roll 14. Wednesday before S^t. Gregory, at 8 o'clock.
- Roll 24. Wednesday before S^t. Laurence, at 9 o'clock.

3RD AND 4TH EDWARD IV.

Thirty-two Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests on 1, 6, and 19.

Second. Six Burgesses admitted at 23s. 4d., and two at 26s. 8d.

Third. Officers, &c., Roll 1. Serjeants' recognizances still £40 each. Woolhall and Town Tolls let for £19, Hythe £33. 6s. 8d.

Fourth. Assize of Bread, November (8), February (13), May (21), July (28).

Fifth. Acknowledgments.

- Roll 10. Joan, wife of Roger Litewyn.
 Roll 14. Margaret, wife of John Sonde.
 Roll 15. Margaret, wife of William Bonefaunt.
 Roll 20. Matilda, wife of John Doraunt.
 Roll 31. Margaret, wife of John Shipman.
 Cristina, wife of John Burre.

Sixth. Release.

- Roll 18. William Moor Clerk and others to Thomas Fraunceys, otherwise Brasyer.

Seventh. Testament of John Facon.

Eighth. Pie Poudré Courts.

- Roll 17. Wednesday before Annunciation.
 Roll 18. Monday before the Close of Easter.
 Roll 19. The Thursday following.

6TH AND 7TH EDWARD IV.

Forty-one Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests on 1, 18, and 27.

Second. Five Burgesses admitted at 26s. 8d., and two at 23s. 4d.

Third. Officers, &c., Roll 1. Only Woolhall demise at £18.

Fourth. Assize of Bread assumes much importance this year, held on

				Corn per quarter.		
				s.	d.	
Wednesday after feast of 11,000 Virgins	..	..	..	6	6	Roll 4.
Vigil of S ^t . Andrew ..	..	..	..	6	0	Roll 12.
Wednesday after S ^t . Matthias ..	..	..	..	6	6	Roll 22.
Friday before Pentecost ..	..	..	..	7	0	Roll 31.
Monday after S ^t . Botolph ..	..	..	..	8	0	Roll 36.
Fourteenth of July ..	..	..	..	8	6	Roll 38.

Fifth. Acknowledgments.

- Roll 16. Joan, wife of Roger Litewyn.
 Roll 25. Margery, wife of John Sonde.
 Roll 27. Joan, wife of Raphael Vanell.
 Roll 28. Joan, wife of John Smyth.
 Idanea, wife of John Ransome.
 Roll 30. Eleanor, wife of John Al ..

Sixth. Testaments.

Roll 16. Richard Barker.

Roll 28. William Bonefaunt.

Seventh. Corporation Grant.

Roll 20. To John Beche, for his life, of a vacant place formerly of Christina Odylshoo, for twelvepence rent.

Eighth. Pie Poudré Courts on 5, 7, and 26.

49TH HENRY VI. AND 11TH EDWARD IV.

Numbered to 30, 26th lost ; all in bad state.

First. On 1, 14, and 23 the Leet Inquests.

Second. Officers, &c., 1st Roll. Woolhall £18, Hythe £35.

Third. Three Burgesses admitted at 23s. 4d.

Fourth. Acknowledgments.

Roll 11. Alice, wife of Thomas Clyngo.

Roll 24. Isabella, wife of Richard Marshall.

Fifth. A number of Deeds relating to the Title to an Estate at Head-gate, then belonging to John Trewe, on 13.

Sixth. Corporation Grant.

To Thomas Kirkeham Clerk of a Tenement next Cemetery of the Holy Trinity for a Rectory, to hold by the rod, &c.

13TH AND 14TH EDWARD IV.

Twenty-six Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests on 2, 10, and 19.

Second. One Burgess admitted at 23s. 4d.

Third. Officers, &c., 1st Roll. Woolhall and Town Tolls let for £18, Hythe Tolls, &c., £32.

Fourth. Assize of Bread, Tuesday before Nativity (8), Friday before St. Valentine (13), Wednesday before Annunciation (17), Thursday before Nativity (23). The price of Wheat each time stated at 5s. 6d. the quarter.

Fifth. Acknowledgments.

Roll 7. Margery, wife of John Vikery.

Roll 13. Margery, wife of John Newman.

Roll 17. Alice, wife of John Reve.

Roll 27. Margaret, wife of John Bosevield.

Sixth. Release.

Roll 6. John Algood to John Beeche and others.

Seventh. The Bridge at the Hythe.

Roll 7. Grant by Bailiffs, &c., to Inhabitants of Hythe, right of way, &c., to build a Bridge of Stone or Timber there.

Roll 9. Grant by John, Duke of Norfolk, to same parties, of right of way over a piece of land at the Hythe which he had from Walter, Abbot of S^t. John's.

16TH AND 17TH EDWARD IV.

Thirty-one Rolls.

First. Leet Inquest on 2, 11, and 21.

Second. Twelve Burgesses admitted. One at 40s., one at 30s., two at 33s. 4d., one at 26s. 8d., and seven at 23s. 4d.

Third. Officers, &c., on Roll 1. Hythe only, rent £35.

Fourth. Assize of Bread.

				Corn per quarter.		
				s.	d.	
Tuesday after 11,000 Virgins	6 6	Roll 5.
Fourth of December	6 0	Roll 9.
Friday after S ^t . Vincent	6 6	Roll 12.
Friday before Corpus Christi	6 0	Roll 24.

Fifth. Acknowledgments enrolled.

Roll 20. Alice, wife of John Boteler, senior (two).

Roll 24. Eleanor, wife of John Algood.

Roll 28. Alice, wife of Richard Welde.

Roll 30. Eleanor, wife of William Gamday.

Roll 31. Joan, wife of Richard Cosyn.

Sixth. Release.

Roll 30. John Weston to William Ford and Grace his wife.

Seventh. Corporation Grants.

Roll 19. To John Colyn, and Ann his wife, on surrender of Richard Welde, of Land, &c., sometime of Simon White, opposite S^t. Helen's Chapel. Rent twelvecpence.

Roll 19. To the same, on surrender of same party a Tenement in Maydenburgh Street, opposite door of Tenement pertaining to S^t. Helen's Chapel, at fourpence rent.

Eighth. Arbitration by the four Supervisors, or "Landlokers," on a party wall.
Roll 20.

Ninth. Dismissal of four Burgesses for "divers offences against the liberties and franchises," on 22.

Tenth. Pie Poudré Court, on 16, 23, and 25.

17TH AND 18TH EDWARD IV.

Twenty-nine Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests on 4, 14, and 18.

Second. One Burgess only admitted, at 26s. 8d.

Third. Officers, &c., 1st Roll. No demises of Tolls.

Fourth. Assize of Bread.

			Wheat per quarter.		
			s.	d.	
Friday before St. Thomas (December)	6 6	Roll 10.
Tuesday in Octaves of Epiphany (January)	6 6	Roll 10.
Friday before St. Agatha (February)	7 0	Roll 13.
Friday before St. George (April)	8 0	Roll 18.

Fifth. Acknowledgments enrolled.

Roll 6. Cristina, wife of Henry Haukewode.

Roll 21. Margery, wife of John Bardolf.

Roll 25. Joan, wife of John Clerk.

Roll 27. Alice, wife of John Gamday.

Joan, wife of John Algood.

Sixth. Arbitration by Landlokers on 5.

Seventh. Pie Poudré Court on 8, 11, 14, 16, and 26.

20TH AND 21ST EDWARD IV.

Twenty-three Rolls, not extending to end of year.

First. Leet Inquests on 1, 9, and 17.

Second. Five Burgesses admitted at 23s. 4d. each.

Third. Officers, &c., Roll 1. Only Hythe demise, £35.

Fourth. Assize of Bread.

				Wheat per quarter.		
				s.	d.	
Wednesday before S ^t . Simon and Jude (October)	..	..	..	6	0	Roll 3.
Friday before S ^t . Lucy (December)	..	..	..	6	0	Roll 9.
Friday in Vigil of S ^t . Matthias (February)	..	..	..	6	6	Roll 13.
Friday after Ascension (May)	6	6	Roll 19.
Friday after Translation of S ^t . Benedict (July)	6	6	Roll 22.

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Fifth. Acknowledgments.

- Roll 3. Joan, wife of Robert Baker (two).
 Roll 4. Eleanor, wife of William Gamday.
 Roll 5. Joan, wife of James Northawe.
 Roll 7. Margaret, wife of Thomas Baroun.
 Roll 23. Lucy, wife of Thomas Profite.
 Margaret, wife of Thomas Wolferton.
 Roll 24. Alice, wife of Richard Welde.
 Anne, wife of Henry Bere.

Sixth. Releases.

- Roll 15. Parker and others to South, and South to William Bolte.
 Roll 20. Thomas Drake to William Pykenham Clerk and others.

Seventh. An Election of a Serjeant at Mace in place of one in the King's service.

21ST AND 22ND EDWARD IV.

Numbered to 39, of which No. 27 lost.

First. Leet Inquests on 1, 16, and 26.

Second. Five Burgesses admitted. One at 30s., two at 26s. 8d., two at 23s. 4d.

Third. Officers, &c., on Roll 1. Hythe Tolls £35.

Fourth. Assize of Bread.

				Wheat.		
				s.	d.	
Thursday before the Purification . .	..	..	..	9	6	Roll 19.
Friday before Trinity ..	..	..	..	13	6	Roll 30.
Friday before S ^t . Laurence ..	..	..	..	10	0	Roll 38.

Fifth. Acknowledgments.

- Roll 3. Anne, wife of Thomas Bernard.
 Joan, wife of Walter Lopham.
 Roll 7. Elizabeth, wife of John Litewyn.
 Roll 13. Lucy, wife of Thomas Profite.
 Roll 15. Agnes, wife of Thomas Balstone.
 Roll 17. Joan, wife of John Ody.
 Margaret, wife of John Boseveld.
 Margaret, wife of Thomas Wolferton.
 Roll 23. Joan, wife of Robert Everard.
 Katherine, wife of Anthony Williamson.
 Alice, wife of William Prentys.
 Anne, wife of Henry Bere.
 Roll 31. Joan, wife of James Northawe (two).
 Roll 36. Joan, wife of William Evenot.
 Roll 39. Alice, wife of John Baroun.

Sixth. Releases enrolled.

- Roll 14. Katherine Sayer to John Thirskby and others.
 Elen Hubert, Widow, and others, to Richard Adelese.
 Roll 15. Master John Barfot Clerk and others to John Whitere, senior, and others.
 Roll 23. John Levington and others to Henry Bere and others.
 Roll 29. Richard Withermersh and others to William, Abbot of S^t. John.

Seventh. Testaments.

- Roll 7. Thomas Kersey.
 Roll 21. Sir Thomas Cook.

Eighth. Pie Poudré Court on 39.

1ST AND 2ND RICHARD III.

About twenty-eight Rolls, in a very decayed state, must be touched with great care, two first Rolls gone.

First. Leet Inquests on 9 and 20.

Second. No Burgesses' admissions.

Third. No List of Officers or Toll demises.

Fourth. Assize of Bread.

				Wheat.		
				s.	d.	
Friday after S ^t . Leonard (November)	..	..	..	8	0	Roll 4.
Friday before S ^t . Andrew (November)	..	..	..	8	0	Roll 7.
Friday before S ^t . Thomas (December)	..	..	..	8	0	Roll 7.
Friday before Purification (February)	..	..	..	8	0	on fragment.
Friday after Corpus Christi (June)	..	..	..	7	6	Roll 11.
Friday before Michaelmas	..	..	..	6	6	Roll 28.

Fifth. A few Acknowledgments and Releases, but the state of the Rolls prevents a List of them being made.

Sixth. Pie Poudré Courts on 18 and 25.

2ND AND 3RD RICHARD III.

Thirty-one Rolls, less No. 2, lost.

First. Leet Inquests on 1, 12, and 21.

Second. Three Burgesses admitted at 23s. 4d.

Third. Officers, &c., on Roll 1. Hythe Tolls let for £35, Woolhall, &c., £16.

Fourth. Assize of Bread.

				Wheat.	
				s.	d.
Friday after Commemoration of Souls (November)	..	..	..		Roll 6.
Friday after Conception of Virgin (December)	..	..	5	6	Roll 11.
Friday in feast of S ^t . Hilary (January)	..	..	5	6	Roll 11.
Friday before S ^t . Peter's Chair (February)	..	..	5	0	Roll 16.
Friday before Close of Easter (April)	..	..	5	0	Roll 19.
Friday before Ascension (May)	..	..	5	0	Roll 23.
Thursday after S ^t . Peter in Chains (August)	..	..	5	0	Roll 31.

Fifth. Acknowledgments.

- Roll 10. Agnes, wife of Richard Overton.
 Roll 19. Katherine, wife of John Chercheman.
 Lucy, wife of Thomas Profite.
 Roll 20. Matilda, wife of Richard Maidstone.
 Agnes, wife of John Tempson.
 Roll 24. Margaret, wife of William Smyth.
 Roll 29. Agnes, wife of Robert Cokke.

Sixth. No Pie Poudré Courts this year.

Not a fragment of a Roll of Henry VII.'s time remains. Portions of the Monday and Thursday Court Books have been found in a decayed state, and have been placed in a case for preservation from further injury. These and the Notes from page 159 to 174 of the "Oath Book," made from the Rolls themselves about the end of the 16th century, contain all that can now be gathered respecting the proceedings of that period.

Court Rolls of Henry VIII.'s time have been very irregularly and loosely kept—here and there a year's Rolls are tolerably complete, but generally they present merely the skeleton, left to be, but never, filled up.

To save needless repetition, wherever the first Roll exists in succeeding Rolls it *invariably* contains the following particulars :—

1. A complete List of the Corporation.
2. Election of the Serjeants.
3. The Serjeants' Recognizances.

Whenever the first Roll is lost these matters will be looked for in vain.

1ST AND 2ND HENRY VIII.

Thirty Rolls, 1, 2, and 19 lost.

First. Leet Inquests on 10,

Second. Four Burgesses admitted at 23s. 4d., one at 20s.

Third. Assize of Bread.

Second of August, Wheat 5s. per quarter. Roll 29.

Thirty-first of August, Wheat 5s. 6d. per quarter. Roll 30.

Fourth. Acknowledgments of Married Women on 5, 11, 27, and 30.

No other Deeds or Wills.

2ND AND 3RD HENRY VIII.

Seventeen Rolls, loosely entered up and not paged.

First. Michaelmas Inquest on 1st Roll.

Second. Seven Burgesses admitted at 23s. 4d., and one gratis.

Third. Assize of Bread, Friday after St. Leonard's, Wheat 6s. 6d., on Roll 6, and thirty-first of March (no price of Wheat) on 16.

Fourth. Acknowledgments on 7, 8, 9, and 11.

3RD AND 4TH HENRY VIII.

Twenty Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests on 1 and 8. Chamberlain made Burgess.

Second. Assize of Bread, Wednesday before St. Thomas Apostle, Wheat 8s. Roll 6.

Third. Proceedings on 17 against an alleged Intruder, who thereupon proved himself to have been born free at Lexden, and was admitted gratis.

Fourth. Acknowledgments on 6, 17, and 20.

4TH AND 5TH HENRY VIII.

Fifteen Rolls unpagged (till now).

First. Leet Inquests on 1, 5, and 9.

Second. New Burgesses. Two at 23s. 4d., two at 20s.

Third. Assize of Bread. Rolls 14 and 15.

Thursday after St. Denis.

Friday after St. Katherine, Wheat 12s. a quarter.

Tuesday after St. David, Wheat 12s. a quarter.

Tuesday after St. Gregory, Wheat 13s. 6d. a quarter.

Monday in Close of Easter, Wheat 13s. 6d. a quarter.

Fourth. One Acknowledgment and one Release.

6TH AND 7TH HENRY VIII.

Thirty-one Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests on 1, 12, and 21, and Sessions on 5 and 10.

Second. Eight new Burgesses at 20s., two at 23s. 4d., one at 26s. 8d.

Third. Assize of Bread on 29, Wheat 7s. a quarter in October, November 6s., January 6s.

Fourth. Acknowledgments on 20 and 31, and a Release on 19. Only the heads and tails of Courts. No notice of Queen Katherine's Visit.

7TH AND 8TH HENRY VIII.

Twenty-three Rolls, less 3, 4, and 5, lost.

First. Leet Inquests on 1, 11, and 16.

Second. Seven Burgesses. Three at 20s. 6d., two at 6s. 8d., one at 10s., and one free.

Third. Assize of Bread on Roll 23. Sixth of November Wheat 8s., fourteenth December the same, February (nil).

Fourth. Acknowledgments on 6 and 18.

Fifth. Corporation demise of four Butchers' Stalls in Market on 18.

The Hundred and Foreign Courts, few entries.

8TH AND 9TH HENRY VIII.

Twenty-four Rolls, many not paged.

First. Leet Inquest on first Roll.

Second. Three Burgesses at 20s., one re-admitted 6s. 8d.

Third. Acknowledgments on 12 and 16. Release on 4.

Fourth. Admission of Oral Proof of Contract for the Sale of a House on 18.

Fifth. A Roll of Deeds relating to the Estate of one John Bonham, Esquire, in Hadleigh and other places, enrolled here at his request (and cost).

Sixth. Sessions of the Peace, when divers rioters were punished, the principal offender, one William Griffith, alias Gryffyn, a "barbour," was fined £3. 6s. 8d., a small sum for his great offence. He and the others assembled in the street between ten and eleven at night, and attacked John Maykyn, one of the Bailiffs, and his companion, one of the Serjeants, exclaiming, "in English words," Down wyth the Bayly ! down w^t him ! He was further fined 40s. for assaulting the Serjeant. 15th December.

9TH AND 10TH HENRY VIII.

Twenty-seven Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests on 2, 3, and 4.

Second. Five Burgesses paid 23s. 4d., three 20s.

Third. Assize of Bread on Roll 2. October, Wheat 8s., Roll 3. December, Wheat 8s. 6d., March, Wheat 8s., May 7s., on Roll 4.

Fourth. Acknowledgments on 8, 16, 21, and 27.

Fifth. Releases on 8 and 26.

Sixth. Fines of Oyster Dredgers on 25.

10TH AND 11TH HENRY VIII.

Twenty paged Rolls, but two of Nos. 14, 17, and 18.

First. Leet Inquests on 2, 3, and 4.

Second. Two Burgesses admitted at 20s. 6d.

Third. Assize of Bread (no price of Wheat given) October on 2, December on 4, March on 2.

Fourth. Acknowledgments on 10, 16, and 20, and Release on 16.

The entries are particularly deficient this year.

11TH AND 12TH HENRY VIII.

Twenty-three Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests on 2, 3, and 4.

Second. Eight Burgesses paid 20s., two 23s. 4d.

Third. Acknowledgments on 11 and 16, Release on 11.

Fourth. Election of Bailiff in place of Thomas Christmas, deceased, on 8th February, when his son John elected in his room, on Roll 13.

Fifth. Corporation Grant.

To Thomas Barton a piece of Garden under the Town Wall in St. Mary's, rent ninepence, fine eightpence.

12TH AND 13TH HENRY VIII.

Paged to 27, of which 3 and 4 are lost.

First. Leet Inquest only on 1.

Second. No Burgesses' admissions left.

Third. Assize of Bread in December, Wheat 13s. 6d., on 2.

Fourth. Acknowledgments on 18, 20, and 25, and Release on 18.

Fifth. William Debenham having refused to attend the Michaelmas Assembly, is summoned and remonstrated with by the Bailiffs, to whom he uses strong language, duly recorded, and finally is fined five pounds, and ordered to be kept "in ward" during their pleasure. See 18.

Sixth. Corporation Demise.

To William Jopson, of lands and Tenements in Maydenborowe Street, at two shillings rent.

Seventh. The last Roll contains the fines for the year.

13TH AND 14TH HENRY VIII.

Twenty-six Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests on 2, 10, and 20, Sessions 3, 11, and 21.

Second. Four Burgesses 20s. each, two at 23s. 4d.

Third. Acknowledgments on 3, 13, 20, 23, 24, and 26, and Releases on 8 and 26.

Fourth. Chamberlain fined £3. 6s. 8d. for refusing office.

14TH AND 15TH HENRY VIII.

Twenty-three Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests on 2, 3, and 5, Sessions on 3, 4, and 5.

Second. Thirteen Burgesses admitted at 20s. 6d.

Third. Assize of Bread on 18. November (Wheat 6s. 6d.), January (Wheat 8s.), May (Wheat 7s.), August (Wheat 8s.)

Fourth. Chamberlain refusing office fined £3. 6s. 8d.

Fifth. Acknowledgments on 15 and 22.

Sixth. List of Fines for the year on 23.

16TH AND 17TH HENRY VIII.

Seventeen Rolls, less No. 13, lost. Several of the end of the year also gone.

First. Leet Inquests on 2 and 8, Sessions (Hilary) 8.

Second. Three Burgesses admitted at 20s. 6d. each.

Third. No Acknowledgments or Releases left.

17TH AND 18TH HENRY VIII.

Twenty Rolls remaining.

First. Leet Inquests on 1, 8, and 11, Sessions (Hilary) 13.

Second. Seven Burgesses paid 20s. 6d. each.

Third. Acknowledgments on 6, 12, 16, and 20.

Fourth. Releases on 20.

On last remaining Roll are some Verdicts of the " Landlokers."

18TH AND 19TH HENRY VIII.

Nineteen Rolls remaining.

First. Leet Inquests on 2, 8, and 19, Sessions on 2 and 8.

Second. Four Burgesses admitted at 20s. 6d.

Third. Acknowledgments on 3, 4, 11, and 12, and a Release on 12.

Fourth. Testament.

Roll 12. James Aleyn.

On Roll 4, in a Deed acknowledged by Alice Lovekyn, the premises conveyed are "a Croft of Land called 'Mabellys Pightell,' or 'Mabylls Pychtell,' containing five acres, next a certain field called Druerye's Field, on one part, and a certain Croft called Puttock's Crouch on the other part. One head abutting on land called Clerk's Land, and the other on Holmer Lane." A note in the handwriting of Morant states it was deposited in St. Mary's Parish Chest because of this description of "Mabel's Pightle," a name quite forgotten in the parish. It was restored to its proper repository in 1821.

19TH AND 20TH HENRY VIII.

Twenty Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests on 2, 9, and 15.

Second. Five Burgesses paid 20s. each, two natives admitted free.

Third. Acknowledgments on 8, 9, 12, and 13.

Fourth. On Roll 20 Goods of a Fugitive detailed, appraised, and taken possession of.

Fifth. On same Roll is an account of the gain of Corn that came to the Hythe, as well Wheat as Barley, £8. 15s. 6d. The "Barley money reckoning," after Michaelmas Day, produced to the town 48s. 10d., of which 6s. 8d. was paid to Mr. Flyngant for his cost "spent on the Whete bought at Harwich."

21ST AND 22ND HENRY VIII.

Twenty-four Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests on 5, 9, and 18.

Second. Four Burgesses admitted free, two at 20s. 6d.

Third. Assize of Bread on 24 (September), Wheat 9s. a quarter.

Fourth. Acknowledgments on 8, 10, 11, 16, and 17.

Fifth. Releases on 8.

On 16, a marginal note in a case of debt is of interest.

Discontinued by
Defendant's } Francis Lepson complained of John King in a Plea of Debt of 40s., pledge to prosecute.
death. Hung in } John Mace.
the Market.

On dorse of 1 the following appears :—

"John Raynforth, Knight, born in Bradfield, Essex, sought admission to the liberties and is created a Burgess, and pardoned the fine, for he was elected a Burgess for Parliament this year."

"Richard Antony, Gentleman, born in Devynshire, of the Parish of St. Giles in the Fields," in the same terms.

"Afterwards, by the command and special desire of the Earl of Oxford, he renounced the Office of Burgess in Parliament."

And afterwards, at the special request of the said Earl made to the Bailiffs, the aforesaid Antony resigned his Office of Burgess of Parliament to Richard Ryche, Gentleman, one of the Council of the said Earl.

And thereupon came Richard Ryche, Gentleman, born at Basyngstoke, and sought, &c., and is created, &c., and fine pardoned, and he is elected a Burgess in Parliament in the place of Antony, and so associated with Sir John Raynforth, Knight.

22ND AND 23RD HENRY VIII.

Numbered to 22, of which No. 19 lost.

First. Leet Inquests on 2, 9, and 14, Sessions on same.

Second. One Burgess paid 23s. 4d.

Third. Assize of Bread on 22, December and May, Wheat at same price, viz., 10s. a quarter.

Fourth. Acknowledgments on 6, 10, 15, and 20.

Fifth. Releases on 10 and 15.

23RD AND 24TH HENRY VIII.

Twenty-three Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests on 5, 9, and 16, Sessions on 16. On 9 the Leet express great dissatisfaction at fines not being enforced, particularly as to the River.

Second. Ten Burgesses admitted at 20s. each.

Third. Assize of Bread on 21, October (Wheat 13s. 6d.), December, March and June (Wheat 14s.)

A presentment for Witchcraft on 9.

Fourth. Acknowledgments on 12, 13, and 14.

24TH AND 25TH HENRY VIII.

Twenty-four Rolls, unpagged.

First. Leet Inquests on 5th, Sessions on same, and part of one on 14th.

Second. Five Burgesses at 20s., one at 13s. 4d. All paid now, in addition, a fee of sixpence to Chamberlain.

Third. Assize of Bread on 6th, October and December, Wheat 13s. a quarter.

Fourth. Acknowledgments on 7th, 16th, 18th, and 20th.

25TH AND 26TH HENRY VIII.

Twenty-six Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests and Sessions on 2, 11, and 20.

Second. Six Burgesses paid 20s., one 13s. 4d.

Third. Assize of Bread, July (22), September (26), Wheat 8s.

Fourth. Acknowledgments on 10, 14, 17, 24, and 26.

26TH AND 27TH HENRY VIII.

Fourteen Rolls.

First. Leet Inquest on 2.

Second. Ten Burgesses admitted at 20s. each.

Third. Assize of Bread 3, December, Easter, and June, Wheat 8s.

Fourth. Acknowledgments and Releases on 3, 7, 8, and 10.

27TH AND 28TH HENRY VIII.

Fourteen Rolls, less No. 11, lost.

First. Leet Inquests on 2, 3, and 5, Sessions on 6.

Second. Nine Burgesses admitted at 20s. each.

Third. Acknowledgments on 3, 4, and 5.

28TH AND 29TH HENRY VIII.

Seventeen Rolls.

First. Leet Inquest on 2 only.

Second. Six Burgesses at 20s., one at 3s. 4d.

Third. Assize of Bread on 7, no price of Wheat stated.

Fourth. Acknowledgments on 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, and 16.

29TH AND 30TH HENRY VIII.

Eighteen Rolls, many unpagged.

First. Leet Inquests on 2 and 13, Sessions on 3 and 12.

Second. Eleven Burgesses, 20s. each.

Third. Assize of Bread on 9, November (Wheat 8s. per quarter), and on 17 May (Wheat 8s. 6d.)

Fourth. Acknowledgments and Deeds enrolled on 5, 6, 8, 9, and 14.

Fifth. Testaments on 11.

On 3, Indictment of Rioters who broke down fences and rails at Milend ; result not stated, " Castle Field," " Claypit Field," &c.

Lord Audeley's wife acknowledged Deed on Roll 8. He was then Lord Chancellor. As to a House in St. Mary's.

30TH AND 31ST HENRY VIII.

Twelve Rolls left.

First. Leet Inquests on 2 and 8, Sessions on 3 and 7.

Second. Assize of Bread on 7, no date or price of Wheat.

Third. Deeds enrolled 3, 4, 6, 9, and 12.

Fourth. Corporation Grant.

Roll 3. To Richard Spery of certain parcels of Tenements in Maydenborowe Street, for twelvecence rent.

31ST AND 32ND HENRY VIII.

Seventeen Rolls.

First. Leet on 2, 9, and 10, Sessions on 3 and 9.

Second. Seven Burgesses at 20s., one freeborn, gratis.

Third. Assize of Bread on 15 and 16, November, February, March, April (Wheat 8s.), July (9s.), September (8s.)

Fourth. Deeds enrolled on 4, 7, 8, 15, 16, and 17.

32ND AND 33RD HENRY VIII.

Twenty Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests and Sessions on 2, 7, and 16.

Second. Four Burgesses at 20s. each.

Third. Assize of Bread on 20, November (Wheat 8s.), January (8s. 6d.), April (8s. 6d.), May (8s.), July (10s.)

Fourth. Deeds enrolled on 4, 8, 10, 13, 17, 18, 19, and 20.

33RD AND 34TH HENRY VIII.

Twenty-six Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests on 2 and 13, Sessions on 3 and 13.

Second. Ten Burgesses at 20s. each, one freeborn, gratis.

Third. Assize of Bread on 26, October and November (Wheat 11s.), December (10s.), May (12s.)

Fourth. First Gaol Delivery Roll, nothing of importance.

Fifth. Deeds enrolled on 5, 6, 7, 9, 14, 16, 19, and 24.

Sixth. Testaments on 5 and 6.

34TH AND 35TH HENRY VIII.

Twenty-four Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests on 2, 3, and 4, Sessions on 5.

Second. Three Burgesses admitted at 20s., other entries lost.

Third. Assize of Bread on 12, December and July (Wheat 13s. 4d.)

Fourth. Deeds enrolled on 6, 9, 11, 12, 15, 16, 18, 20, 21, 22, and 24.

Fifth. Testaments on 12 and 21.

Two parties fined for refusing Office of Chamberlain, and one for declining to be an Alderman.

35TH AND 36TH HENRY VIII.

Twenty-five Rolls, less No. 13, lost.

First. Leet Inquests on 2, 10, and 16, Sessions on 3, 10, and 16.

Second. Six Burgesses at 20s., one freeborn, gratis.

Third. Assize of Bread in August on 22 (Wheat 16s.)

Fourth. Deeds enrolled on 5, 9, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20, and 21.

Fifth. Testament.

Roll 23. Robert Tilliard.

A Chamberlain again refusing to serve, fined £3. 6s. 8d.

36TH AND 37TH HENRY VIII.

Twenty-one Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests none, Sessions on 2, part of another.

Second. Eight new Burgesses paid 20s. each, one native, free.

Third. Deeds enrolled on 4, 5, 6, 8, 11, and 13.

Fourth. Roll 3, a List of Amerciaments.

37TH AND 38TH HENRY VIII.

Twenty-three Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests 2 and 3, Sessions 3 and 4.

Second. Seven new Burgesses at 20s., one freeborn, gratis.

Third. Deeds enrolled on 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, and 15.

1ST AND 2ND EDWARD VI.

Numbered to 24, of which No. 10 lost.

First. Leet Inquests on 2, 6, and 14.

Second. Six new Burgesses at 20s., one native, free.

Third. Deeds enrolled on 3, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 15, and 16.

Fourth. Testament.

Roll 4. John Cakko.

3RD AND 4TH EDWARD VI.

Eleven Rolls, some unpagcd.

First. Leet Inquests on 1st, 5th, and 8th, Sessions 5th and 9th.

Second. Eleven new Burgesses at 20s., three gratis.

Third. Deeds enrolled on 4, 6, 10, 11, and 12.

4TH AND 5TH EDWARD VI.

Twenty Rolls, unpagcd throughout.

First. Leet Inquests and Sessions on 2, 8, and 14.

Second. Twelve new Burgesses at 20s., three gratis.

Third. Deeds enrolled on 4, 5, 9, 10, 15, 16, and 17.

Fourth. Testaments on 10.

5TH AND 6TH EDWARD VI.

Numbered to 32, of which 3, 10, 14, 15, 16, 29, 30, 31, are lost.

First. Leet Inquests on 2 and 23, Sessions on 2.

Second. Three new Burgesses at 20s. each.

Third. Deeds enrolled on 4, 6, 7, 17, 19, 24, 26, 27, and 28.

On 17, Grant of Chantry Lands by the King, and Mortgages to parties advancing the purchase-money to be paid into the Exchequer.

1ST MARY.

Twenty-two Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests and Sessions on 2, 6, and 11.

Second. Nine new Burgesses, of which five at 20s., rest not stated.

Third. Deeds enrolled on 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16.

On 10, a Deed acknowledged by Lady Audeley (wife of the Chancellor), of lands formerly Chantry Lands of St. Helen's Chapel, in Colchester and neighbourhood, " Cheldewell," " Gore Pasture," &c.

1ST AND 2ND PHILIP AND MARY.

Twenty Rolls.

The first Roll contains, as usual, the Corporation List, Serjeants' Recognizances, &c., and so it continues as long as the Rolls continue. This year, it is noticeable, that this first Roll records that no less than three persons in succession declined the Office of Chamberlain, paying a fine of £3. 6s. 8d. each. A fourth was then elected and sworn.

First. Leet Inquests and Sessions on 2, 6, and 11.

Second. Ten new Burgesses at 20s. each, one gratis.

Third. Deeds enrolled on 3, 4, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13, 14, and 15.

2ND AND 3RD PHILIP AND MARY.

Twenty Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests and Sessions on 2, 3, and 4.

Second. Seven new Burgesses at 20s., and one at 10s.

Third. Deeds enrolled on 5, 6, 10, 11, 13, and 20.

No less than five persons in succession this year refused the Office of Chamberlain and paid the fine ; a sixth was elected and sworn. What could be the reason of this ?

4TH AND 5TH PHILIP AND MARY.

Seventeen Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests and Sessions on 2, 3, and 4.

Second. Thirty new Burgesses. Two at 40s., five at 20s., one at 15s., and the rest at 30s.

Third. Deeds enrolled on 5 to 10 inclusive.

On 7, a Grant of Swan Mark, in the Thames, and other Rivers of the Duchy of Lancaster, by Henry VIII. to Sir John Williams, Keeper of his Jewels, "enrolled at the request of Roger Amys, Esquire."

On 10, an enrolment of a Deed by one John Abel, Esquire, to Thomas Cosyn, of Lands at Great Horkesley, has a note added in 4th Elizabeth that it was a forged Deed, but why it was enrolled at Colchester is not stated.

On same Roll are the Orders "concluded and agreed" on the appointment of one John Cole, a Tailor, as Clerk of the Market. He was to receive all fines and fees, and 40s. yearly in addition. He was to collect the Town rents for the Chamberlain, and have 28s. 4d. yearly for that. He was also to act as Town Surveyor, for which he was to have 13s. 4d. yearly. He was to take care of the Corn left unsold in the Corn Market, but the rest of his duties and emoluments are lost by decay of the Parchment.

5TH AND 6TH PHILIP AND MARY, AND 1ST ELIZABETH.

Twenty-two Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests and Sessions on 2, 3, and 4.

Second. Fifteen new Burgesses. One at £3. 6s. 8d., one at 53s. 4d., four at 40s., one at 33s. 4d., six at 30s., two gratis.

Third. Deeds enrolled on 5 to 16 inclusive.

On 10, Assizes at Brentwood 22nd February, 1st Elizabeth. The Jury presented that Leonard Medcalf had, on the 17th August then last, assaulted one John

Roberds, then dredging Oysters in Burflete, in Brickelsey, by order of the Bailiffs, and within the Jurisdiction and Franchise of Colchester, and put him in fear of his life, and his Oyster Dredge, value five shillings, threw into the water, where it sank, to the grave damage, &c. No further proceeding is here recorded.

1ST AND 2ND ELIZABETH.

Eighteen Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests and Sessions on 2, 3, and 4.

Second. Twenty-one new Burgesses. One at 53s. 4d., three at 40s., nine at 30s., one at 20s., and five gratis.

Third. Deeds enrolled on 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, and 13.

2ND AND 3RD ELIZABETH.

Seventeen Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests and Sessions on 2, 3, and 4.

Second. Thirteen new Burgesses. One at £4, one at 53s. 4d., one at 50s., six at 40s., one at 33s. 4d., two at 30s., and one gratis ; two re-admitted, one at 5s., the other at 3s. 4d.

Third. Deeds enrolled on 5 to 13 inclusive.

Fourth. Testament.

Roll 10. William Blyott.

Fifth. Three Apprenticeship Indentures, all to " John Hogg, Minstrel," 14.

4TH AND 5TH ELIZABETH.

Sixteen Rolls, some not paged, all in a bad state from damp.

First. Leet Inquests and Sessions on 2 and 3.

Second. Fourteen new Burgesses. Two at 40s., five at 26s. 8d., one at 20s., one at 15s., one at 30s., and four free.

Third. Deeds enrolled on 4, 5, 11, to 14 inclusive.

5TH AND 6TH ELIZABETH.

Of nineteen Rolls No. 3 only lost.

First. Leet Inquests and Sessions on 2 and 4.

Second. Twenty-one Burgesses admitted. One at £4, one at 50s., twelve at 40s., three at 30s., three at 20s., and one free.

Third. Deeds enrolled on 4, 6, 9, 10, and 11.

6TH AND 7TH ELIZABETH.

Four Rolls only, not paged.

First. Fourteen new Burgesses. Two at £3, one at 46s. 8d., two at 40s., five at 30s., one at 20s., the rest free.

Second. Deeds enrolled on 3 and 4.

7TH AND 8TH ELIZABETH.

Five Rolls, not numbered.

First. *Fifty-five* Burgesses admitted. One at £5, one at 53s. 4d., two at 40s., one at 33s. 4d., three at 30s., one at 20s., one at 10s., two at 5s., and *forty-three* free.

Second. Deeds enrolled on 3 and 4.

8TH AND 9TH ELIZABETH.

Six numbered Rolls, of which No. 3 lost.

First. Eight new Burgesses. One at £3, two at 50s., two at 30s., one at 20s., and two free.

Second. Deeds enrolled on 2, 5, and 6.

9TH AND 10TH ELIZABETH.

Nine Rolls, never paged.

First. Eight new Burgesses. One at 33s. 4d., one free, and the rest at 30s. each.

Second. Deeds enrolled on 2 and 5.

10TH AND 11TH ELIZABETH.

Nine Rolls, unpagcd.

First. Sixteen new Burgesses. One at 40s., one at 33s. 4d., six at 30s., one at 20s., one at 15s., and six free.

Second. Deeds enrolled on 3 and 5.

11TH AND 12TH ELIZABETH.

Eleven Rolls, not numbered.

First. Fourteen new Burgesses. One at 53s. 4d., four at 40s., five at 30s., one at 20s., and three gratis.

Second. Deeds enrolled on 2, 4, and 6.

12TH AND 13TH ELIZABETH.

Twelve Rolls, a few of the earlier ones paged, the others not.

First. Nine new Burgesses. Two at 40s., three at 30s., four free, one a Burgess in Parliament.

Second. Deeds enrolled on 4 to 9 inclusive.

Third. On 10, Scrutators of Woollen Cloths appointed and sworn.

13TH AND 14TH ELIZABETH.

Fifteen Rolls, not paged.

First. Twenty-seven new Burgesses. One at £4, one at 40s., three at 33s. 4d., fifteen at 30s., two at 26s. 8d., and five free.

Second. Deeds enrolled on 3, 4, 6, and 7.

Third. On 7, Election of Burgesses in Parliament, of the record of it the following is a translation :—

“ Law Hundred Court, &c., 24th March 14th year.”

“ At this Court the Bailiffs, Aldermen, and Commons elected, according to ancient Custom, Robert Christmas and Henry Golding, Esquires, Burgesses for the Burgh aforesaid, for Parliament, to be holden at Westminster the 8th May following.”

15TH AND 16TH ELIZABETH.

Eighteen Rolls, paged.

First. Thirteen new Burgesses. Two at 33s. 4d., four at 30s., one at 26s. 8d., one at 24s., one at 20s., and four free.

Second. Deeds enrolled on 2, 3, 5 to 8, 10 to 18, all inclusive.

16TH AND 17TH ELIZABETH.

Twenty Rolls.

First. A single Roll of the Michaelmas Leet, 1 a, showing that their absence is caused by loss, and that they had not been discontinued.

Second. Thirteen new Burgesses. One at 53s. 4d., three at 40s., one at 33s. 4d., four at 30s., one at 26s. 8d., one at 20s., two gratis.

Third. Assize of Bread, November (6), Wheat 24s. the quarter, September (15), Wheat 20s., Malt 11s.

Fourth. Deeds enrolled 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 15, and 16.

17TH AND 18TH ELIZABETH.

Twenty-two Rolls, unpagged.

No Corporation List for the first time for many years.

First. Six new Burgesses. One at 33s. 4d., two at 30s., one at 10s., and two gratis.

Second. Deeds enrolled on 2, 3, 4, 6, 8 to 12 inclusive.

19TH AND 20TH ELIZABETH.

Thirty-one Rolls, in good order.

First. Leet Inquests and Sessions on 2, 3, and 4.

Second. Sixty-eight new Burgesses. Nine at 40s., one at 36s. 8d., two at 33s. 4d., thirty at 30s., two at 26s. 8d., one at 20s., one at 10s., and twenty-two gratis.

Third. Deeds enrolled on 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, and 22.

Fourth. On 15 and 29 Licences for Summer Dredgers.

Fifth. A Measurer for New Hythe sworn, on 8, and on 24th April, 1578, Conference about Old Hythe and Colne Water.

On 15, a man elected a free Burgess on condition of his taking a poor town boy apprentice for twelve years.

20TH AND 21ST ELIZABETH.

Thirty-four Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests and Sessions on 2, 3, and 4.

Second. Sixteen new Burgesses. One at £5, one at £4, one at £3, one at 53s. 4d., three at 40s., two at 33s. 4d., one at 10s., and six gratis.

Third. Dredgers' Licences on 15, 23, and 33, and fines on last.

Fourth. Assize of Bread on 7, November, Wheat 20s. a quarter.

Fifth. Deeds enrolled 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 18, 21, 23, and 24.

Sixth. Writ for Election of Burgess in Parliament and return, that " Bailiffs, Aldermen, and Common Council assembled," elected Robert Middleton, Junior, Esquire.

Endorsed as produced in 1727 in *Waldegrave v. Corporation*.

21ST AND 22ND ELIZABETH.

The Parchment Rolls, if ever made up, have been lost ; the parcel marked for this year contains a heap of little scraps of paper, pleas, declarations, affidavits, enrolments, squeezed together in a Parchment Roll ; arrangement is hopeless.

22ND AND 23RD ELIZABETH.

Twenty-eight Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests and Sessions on 2, 3, 5, 7, and 8.

Second. Deeds enrolled on 4, 9, 10, 12, 14 to 26, and 28.

Third. Twenty new Burgesses. One at £3. 13s. 4d., two at £3, one at 46s. 8d., one at 45s., eight at 40s., four at 30s., and three free.

23RD AND 24TH ELIZABETH.

Thirty-six Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests and Sessions on 2, 3, 4, and 5.

Second. Twenty-eight Burgesses admitted. Two at £3, one at 53s. 4d., one at 46s., five at 40s., eight at 33s. 4d., two at 30s., one at 10s., the rest free.

Third. Deeds enrolled on 7, 8, 9, 12 to 19, 22, 27, 31 to 36, all inclusive (including Apprenticeship Indentures).

24TH AND 25TH ELIZABETH.

Twenty-three Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests and Sessions on 22 and 23.

Second. Seventeen new Burgesses. Three at £4, one at £3, one at 53s. 4d., three at 40s., three at 33s. 4d., and six free.

Third. Assize of Bread (2), October, Wheat 18s. 6d. a quarter.

Fourth. Dredgers' Licences and Fines on 19 and 20.

Fifth. Deeds enrolled on 6, 7, 9, 10, 14 to 20 inclusive.

Sixth. Fines for Anchorage in River by Mersea Stone, 1727, produced in *Waldegrave v. Corporation*.

25TH AND 26TH ELIZABETH.

Thirty-two Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests and Sessions on 30, 31, and 32.

Second. Twenty-two new Burgesses. One at £5, two at £3, four at £2, three at 36s. 8d., three at 33s. 4d., two at 33s., four at 30s., and three free.

Third. Deeds enrolled on 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11 to 29; a large proportion Apprenticeship Indentures.

26TH AND 27TH ELIZABETH.

Thirty Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests and Sessions on 28, 29, and 30.

Second. Twenty-three new Burgesses. One at £5, one at £3. 6s. 8d., one at £3, one at 53s. 4d., five at 40s., four at 33s. 4d., one at 32s., three at 30s., and six gratis.

Third. Recoveries on 5 and 9. Deeds enrolled on 4, 7, 10, 13, 25, and 27. Fifteen Apprenticeship Indentures.

The *form* of Judgment "by the Tumbrell" for Adultery, &c., of which cases occur in every year, may be seen on 22.

27TH AND 28TH ELIZABETH.

Thirty-seven Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests and Sessions on 34 to 37.

Second. Seventeen new Burgesses. Two at £6, one at £3, three at 46s. 8d., six at 40s., two at 33s. 4d., and three free.

Third. Dredgers admitted on 12.

Fourth. Deeds enrolled on 7, 10, 14, 15, 17, 25, 26, and 32. Twenty-one Apprenticeship Indentures.

Fifth. Bakers' Recognizances on 2 and 30.

Sixth. Anchorage at Borefleete paid on 29.

28TH AND 29TH ELIZABETH.

Thirty-nine Rolls.

First. On the Corporation List, the first Roll, it is recorded that one Lambert refused to be Alderman and Bailiff, "not in contempt, but by reason of his infirmity," therefore fined only £13. 6s. 8d. But on the third Roll, one Buckston is recorded to have refused the Office of Alderman, for which he was dismissed from his freedom and fined £60, but was graciously re-admitted on submission and payment of fine, one Barlow being elected an Alderman in his stead.

Second. Leet Inquests and Sessions on 37, 38, and 39.

Third. Twenty-six new Burgesses. One at 53s. 4d., ten at 40s., three at 33s. 4d., two at 30s., one at 20s., and nine free.

Fourth. Deeds enrolled on 4, 11, 14, 20, 25, 31, 33, 35, and 36.

Fifth. Recoveries suffered on 15, 17, and 19.

Sixth. Assize of Bread on 18, June, Wheat 46s. 6d. a quarter, Rye 27s.

Seventh. Porters and Measurers at Hythe sworn, 15.

A case of Assize of Fresh Force on 11.

On 15, a safe conduct or protection from the Governor of Zeland for one James Prior, "streightly charging all Bailiffs, Justices, &c., not to sue, arrest, molest, or trouble" him.

29TH AND 30TH ELIZABETH.

Thirty-one Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests on 29, 30, and 31.

Second. Seven new Burgesses. One at £8, one at £3, two at 40s., one at 30s., the rest gratis.

Third. Deeds enrolled on 4, 6, 17, 19, 21, 22, 24, 27. Recoveries on 10 and 12. Eleven Apprentice Indentures.

Fourth. Testament.

Roll 10. Margaret Fludd.

On 3, a safe conduct to Thomas Hill by the Governor of Flushing, said Hill being his purveyor.

30TH AND 31ST ELIZABETH.

Thirty-three Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests, &c., on 31, 32, and 33.

Second. Eight new Burgesses. One at £4, one at 53s. 4d., five at 40s., and one at 30s.

Third. Bakers' and Brewers' Recognizances, 21.

Fourth. Deeds enrolled on 2, 4, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 16, 18, 26, 29, and 30. Recoveries on 10 and 15. Thirteen Apprentice Indentures.

31ST AND 32ND ELIZABETH.

Twenty-five Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests gone.

Second. Fourteen new Burgesses. One at £3, one at 46s., two at 40s., three at 33s. 4d., four at 30s., and three free, "because they either took a town lad apprentice," or "educated a poor lad of the town."

Third. Bakers' Recognizances 2, Brewers 14.

Fourth. Deeds enrolled on 4, 6, 8, 11, 13, 16, 19, 22, and 23.

Fifth. Recovery Deeds on 2, 3, 6, and 8. Eleven Apprentice Indentures.

Sixth. Testaments.

Roll 7. Humfrey Earle.

Roll 17. Thomas Woodward.

32ND AND 33RD ELIZABETH.

Thirty-five Rolls.

First. Leet Inquests, &c., gone.

Second. Eighteen new Burgesses. One at £5, two at £3, one at 53s. 4d., one at 46s. 8d., two at 45s., two at 40s., one at 30s., one at 3s. 4d., and seven free. The one who paid 3s. 4d. was a former Apprentice of a *free burgess*, the first I have noticed. They appear now nearly every year at the uniform fine of 3s. 4d.

Third. Assize of Bread on 35, September, Wheat 23s.

Fourth. Bakers' Recognizances 3, "Bruers" 4, Wardens of Butchers sworn 23.

Fifth. Dredgers' Licences 14.

Sixth. Deeds enrolled on 2, 3, 7, 8, 11, 14, 16, 21, 25, 30, 32, and 33. Recovery 5. Seventeen Apprentice Indentures.

Seventh. Testament of Stephen Holt.

A lad of 14 appoints a Guardian before the Bailiffs, or, as called on the Roll, a "Gardener" of all his lands, 13.

On 9 are Letters Testimonial or Certificates from the Mayor of Sandwich of Baptism of two persons admitted Burgesses of Colchester.

A stray horse reclaimed on 29.

33RD AND 34TH ELIZABETH.

Twenty-five Rolls.

First. No Leet or Sessions Rolls.

Second. Nineteen new Burgesses. Three at 40s., one at £3. 6s. 8d., one at 53s. 4d., four (Apprentices) at 3s. 4d., nine gratis.

Third. Assize of Bread on 23, June, Wheat 18s. a quarter. Wardens of Bakers sworn on 2.

Fourth. Scrutators of Leather elected and sworn, 2, Wool Wardens on 7.

Fifth. Dredgers' Licences "this summer," 11.

Sixth. Deeds enrolled on 4, 7, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 20, 23, and 25. Recovery on 3. Seventeen Apprentices' Indentures.

Letters Patent for making Starch on 12.

34TH AND 35TH ELIZABETH.

Twenty-five Rolls.

First. Leet Rolls lost.

Second. Twenty-four new Burgesses. One at 40s., one at 53s. 4d., ten at 30s., one at 26s. 8d., five at 3s. 4d., and six free.

Third. Assize of Bread, March ("Middle Wheat" 21s. 6d.), 9.

Fourth. Deeds enrolled on 2, 4, 12, 14, 17, 18, 21, 23, 24. Recovery on 7. Eighteen Apprentices' Indentures and five Contracts with Workmen.

Fifth. Testament.

Rolls 4 and 5. Robert Lambert.

35TH AND 36TH ELIZABETH.

Twenty-one Rolls.

First. Leet Rolls gone.

Second. Twenty-six Burgesses admitted. Two at £5, one at £4, ten at 40s., one at 30s., four at 3s. 4d., and eight free.

Third. Assize of Bread.

Roll 2. October, Middle Wheat 24s. per quarter.

Roll 5. February, D°. 28s. „

Roll 10. September, D°. 42s. 10d. „

Fourth. Dredgers' Licences 8.

Fifth. Deeds enrolled on 3, 4, 8, 9, 13, 18, 19, and 20. Twenty Apprentices' Indentures. Four Workmens' Contracts.

36TH AND 37TH ELIZABETH.

Thirty-two Rolls.

First. No Leet Rolls.

Second. Twenty new Burgesses. One at £3. 6s. 8d., one at 53s. 4d., one at 40s., one at 33s. 4d., three at 30s., three at 3s. 4d., ten free.

Third. Deeds enrolled on 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 18, 20 to 24. Recovery on 7. Twenty Apprentices' Indentures.

On 22, the " Landlokers " decided a question of right to put out doors and windows into a Meadow of Sir Thomas Lucas, after a view, in his favour, on the ground that they were not ancient easements, as appeared by the Wall—deciding at the cost of a few shillings what has many times cost hundreds of pounds.

37TH AND 38TH ELIZABETH.

Twenty-three Rolls.

First. *Fifty-six* new Burgesses. One at 40s., one at 16s. 8d., eight at 3s. 4d., and the rest gratis.

Second. Assize of Bread 5, November, Wheat 43.

Third. Deeds enrolled on 7, 8, 9, 11, 14, 15, 16, 21, and 23. Recovery on 7. Thirteen Apprentices' Indentures.

Fourth. Dredgers' Licences on 12.

38TH AND 39TH ELIZABETH.

Thirty-four Rolls.

First. Eleven new Burgesses. One at £3, one at 53s. 4d., one at 50s., three at 40s., one at 33s. 4d., one at 30s., and three gratis.

Second. Assize of Bread.

Roll 21. October, 38th year, Wheat 43s. 6d. a quarter.

Roll 4. November, 38th year, Wheat 48s. a quarter.

Roll 18. August, 39th year, Wheat 48s. a quarter.

Third. Dredgers' Licences, 16.

Fourth. Deeds enrolled on 4, 5, 9, 10, 12 to 19, 25, and 26. Recovery on 7, 8, and 9. Sixteen Apprentices' Indentures, and six Labourers' Contracts.

Fifth. Testaments.

Roll 7. John Hamond.

Roll 14. Arthur Wilson,

39TH AND 40TH ELIZABETH.

Twenty-two Rolls.

First. Twenty-two new Burgesses. One at £10, one at £3. 13s. 4d., three at £3. 6s. 8d., two at 50s., one at 46s. 8d., three at 40s., one at 35s., two at 33s. 4d., four at 3s. 4d., and four gratis. One of these last had his freedom on condition of providing for his father and mother during their lives.

Second. Assize of Bread.

Roll 12. October, Wheat 48s. per quarter.

Roll 4. February, Wheat 52s. „

Roll 10. August, Wheat 32s. 6d. „

Third. Dredgers' Licences, 9.

Fourth. Deeds enrolled on 1, 2, 4, 6, and 18. Recoveries on 5, 7, and 9. Seven Apprentices' Indentures.

40TH AND 41ST ELIZABETH.

Sixteen Rolls.

First. Twenty-one new Burgesses. One at £6. 13s. 4d., one at £3, two at 46s. 8d., seven at 40s., two at 33s. 4d., two at 30s., and six gratis.

Second. Assize of Bread in October, Wheat 32s. 6d., on 1.

Third. Deeds enrolled on 2 to 5, 7 to 11, 13 to 16 inclusive. Recovery on 6. Fourteen Apprentices' Indentures.

Fourth. Letters Patent to an Alien, whereupon he was made a Burgess, his fine, as above, £6. 13s. 4d.

41ST AND 42ND ELIZABETH.

Twenty-one Rolls.

First. The entry of Cases on the Roll at the Hundred and Foreign Courts, which from the first of Henry VIII. has not shown anything like the actual amount of business transacted, (as appears by the Court Books,) is now given up, at least for a time ; the heading of each Court, and the amount of Fines and Fees, being all that is now given. Each Court has a statement thus :—

Warr (Warrants)	14 ^d .	} 5 ^s . 3 ^d . in Treasury.
Dies (Days) ..	..	..	..	3 ^s . 3 ^d .
Plit (Pleas) ..	..	..	..	10 ^d .

Second. Ten Burgesses admitted. One at 50s., one at 46s. 8d., two at 40s., one at 33s. 4d., three at 3s. 4d., two gratis.

Third. Dredgers' Licences on 19.

Fourth. Deeds enrolled on 2, 3, 5, 6 to 10, 13, and 14, and Recoveries on 10, 11, and 15. Twenty-six Apprentices' Indentures. Three Servants' Contracts.

42ND AND 43RD ELIZABETH.

Fourteen Rolls.

First. Eighteen new Burgesses. One at 50s., one at 46s. 8d., three at 3s. 4d., and thirteen free.

Second. An Ordinance for Aliens from the Exchequer on 4, and a Warrant under Privy Seal for safe conduct and protection for one John Luff.

Third. Dredgers licenced on 14.

Fourth. Deeds enrolled on 2, 4, 6 to 10 inclusive. Recovery on 2. Twenty Apprentices' Indentures.

43RD AND 44TH ELIZABETH.

Thirteen Rolls.

First. Twelve new Burgesses. One at £3, one at 53s. 4d., two at 40s., one at 33s. 4d., one at 30s., four at 3s. 4d., and two free.

Second. Assize of Bread on 2, October, Wheat 27s.

Third. Dredgers' Licences on 14.

Fourth. Deeds enrolled on 2, 3, 4, and 6. Thirty-two Apprentices' Indentures.

Fifth. A curious Letter of Protection to Benjamin Clerc, a Crown Debtor, for a certain term, to get in his debts.

44TH ELIZABETH AND 1ST JAMES I.

Sixteen Rolls.

First. Sixteen new Burgesses. One at £5, two at 40s., one at 33s. 4d., one at 20s., three at 3s. 4d., eight free.

Second. Election of Alderman (3), Serjeant-at-Mace (5).

Third. Two verdicts of "Landlokers" on Eaves' Drip, and repairs of a water-course in Loddors Lane—very good instances of the value of their services, on 15.

Fourth. Dredgers licenced on 16.

Fifth. Deeds enrolled on 2, 3, 4, 6 to 12, and 14. Nine Apprentices' Indentures.

2ND AND 3RD JAMES I.

Forty-one Rolls.

First. Court Proceedings entered up again fully.

Second. Seven new Burgesses. One at 40s., one at 5s. 4d., four at 3s. 4d., and one free.

Third. Dredgers' Licences on 38.

Fourth. Deeds enrolled on 3, 4, 5, 7 to 14, and 16. Recoveries on 1 and 10. Twenty-nine Apprentices' Indentures.

3RD AND 4TH JAMES I.

Forty-six Rolls.

First. Twenty-one new Burgesses. One at £3. 6s. 8d., three at 40s., one at 35s., one at 33s. 4d., one at 30s., three at 3s. 4d., and twelve gratis.

Second. Dredgers Licenced on 19.

Third. Deeds enrolled on 1, 2, 4, 6, 10 to 15, 18, 20, and 21. Recoveries on 4, 8, 13, 16, 17. Thirty-eight Apprentices' Indentures.

4TH AND 5TH JAMES I.

Thirty-eight Rolls.

First. Nineteen new Burgesses. One at £3, one at 53s. 4d., one at 46s. 8d., four at 40s., one at 33s. 4d., five at 30s., three at 3s. 4d., the rest free.

Second. Deeds enrolled 2 to 11, 13, 14, and 15. Recoveries on 2 and 3. Twenty-five Apprentices' Indentures.

Third. An Order set down for the Dutch Congregation, 18 February, 1605, by virtue of Letters from the Privy Council addressed to Sir Thomas Lucas, Edward Waldegrave, Esquire, and the Bailiffs.

5TH AND 6TH JAMES I.

Thirty-three Rolls.

First. Seven new Burgesses at 3s. 4d., eight free.

Second. Assize of Bread (2), November, Wheat 36s. (8), May, Wheat 45s.

Third. On 9, "The names of such persons as are appointed to enquire upon the Orders appointed by his Ma^{ty}. to be observed for preventing and remedying of the dearth of grain and other Victuals." Seven named for each of the four Wards.

Fourth. Deeds enrolled on 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 12, 14, and 18. Recovery on 11. Eighteen Apprenticeship Indentures. It is a singular fact that for so many years these documents, which varied only in the names, and addresses, and trades, should have been copied verbatim.

6TH AND 7TH JAMES I.

Thirty Rolls.

First. The minutes of the Hundred and Foreign Courts are again slightly reduced by appearances, essoigns, and other formal proceedings being omitted, and the total of fees for them only being inserted each Court.

Second. Seventeen new Burgesses. One at 40s., four at 3s. 4d., two at 5s. 4d., and the rest gratis.

Third. Assize of Bread on 1, October, Wheat 50s.

Fourth. Deeds enrolled on 2 to 9, 11, 12, 16, and 17. Recoveries on 13 and 14. Fourteen Apprentices' Indentures.

Fifth. Election by Woollen Merchants of one Warden for the year, the Bailiffs electing the other.

7TH AND 8TH JAMES I.

Thirty-one Rolls.

First. Sixteen Burgesses admitted. One at £13. 6s. 8d., one at £3, one at 40s., two 30s., seven 3s. 4d., and four gratis.

Second. Assize of Bread in November, Wheat 39s. 6d.

Third. Dredgers Licenced, dorse of 31.

Fourth. Deeds enrolled on 2, 3, 5 to 16, 18 to 27. Recoveries on 11, 14, and 17. Thirty-nine Apprentices' Indentures.

9TH AND 10TH JAMES I.

Sixteen Rolls.

First. Seven new Burgesses. Five at 3s. 4d., two gratis.

Second. Assize of Bread, 16th December, Wheat 43s. Roll 7.

Third. Dredgers' Licences on 16.

Fourth. Deeds enrolled on 2 to 7, 9, 11 to 14. Seventeen Apprentices' Indentures.

10TH AND 11TH JAMES I.

Thirteen Rolls.

First. Twenty-two new Burgesses. One at £5, five at 40s., one at 13s. 4d., fourteen at 3s. 4d., and one native, free.

Second. Deeds enrolled on 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, and 12. Recovery on 11. Twenty-four Apprentices' Indentures.

Third. Dredgers' Licences on 14.

12TH AND 13TH JAMES I.

Forty Rolls.

First. Nineteen new Burgesses. One at £3. 6s. 8d., two at £3 (these also paid ten shillings each for the Poor), two at 50s. and 10s. each to the Poor, one at 46s., seven at 3s. 4d., and seven free.

Second. Assize of Bread on 3, December 10th, Wheat 38s. the quarter (16), August, Wheat 34s.

Third. Deeds enrolled on 3 to 7, 13, 14, 19, 20, and 40. Recoveries on 8, 11, and 15. Twenty-one Apprentices' Indentures.

Fourth. Testament.

Roll 28. Henry Osborn.

13TH AND 14TH JAMES I.

First. Sixty-eight new Burgesses.

Fines.						£	s.	d.	
Two at £3	6	0	0
Two at 50 ^s	5	0	0
Twenty-five at 40 ^s	50	0	0
One at 35 ^s	1	15	0
Four at 33 ^s . 4 ^d	6	13	4
Eight at 30 ^s	12	0	0
Two at 26 ^s . 8 ^d	2	13	4
Three at 20 ^s	3	0	0
One at 12 ^s	0	12	0
One at 10 ^s	0	10	0
Nine at 3 ^s . 4 ^d	1	10	0
						<hr/>			
						£89	13	8	

And ten free. The fines this year amounted to a handsome sum.

Second. Dredgers Licenced on 26.

Third. Deeds enrolled on 2 to 9. Twenty-nine Apprentices' Indentures.

One Langley elected an Alderman, refused to act, and was fined £80.

14TH AND 15TH JAMES I.

Thirteen Rolls.

First. Thirty-three Burgesses admitted. One at £6, one at £5, one at £3. 6s. 8d., one £3, one 50s., four at 46s. 8d., one 40s., two 33s. 4d., one 20s., eight 3s. 4d., and twelve free. Those paying 3s. 4d. Apprentices as heretofore.

Second. Assize of Bread.

Roll 2. November, Wheat 38s. a quarter.

Roll 5. March, Wheat 46s. „

Roll 8. August, Wheat 50s. „

Third. Dredgers' Licences on 13.

Fourth. Deeds enrolled on 2 to 10. One a Release of four Tenements, in Loddors Lane, formerly belonging to St. John's Abbey, to Sir Thomas Lucas. Twenty-seven Apprentices' Indentures.

15TH AND 16TH JAMES I.

Twenty Rolls.

First. Twenty-five new Burgesses. One at £5, three at £4, one at 40s., two at 20s., six at 3s. 4d., and twelve free.

Second. Assize of Bread on 14, October, Wheat 34s.

Third. Dredgers Licenced on 19.

Fourth. Deeds enrolled on 2 to 14 inclusive. *Forty-three* Apprentices' Indentures.

16TH AND 17TH JAMES I.

Numbered to 17, but 1st gone.

First. Sixteen new Burgesses. One at £3. 6s. 8d., one at £3, one at 40s., one at 20s., one at 50s., seven at 3s. 4d., and four gratis.

Second. Assize of Bread 4, November, Wheat 37s., and 13, September, Wheat 30s.

Third. Dredgers Licenced on 18.

Fourth. Deeds enrolled 2, 4 to 7, 10 to 13. Recoveries on 7 and 8. Thirty-three Apprentices' Indentures.

17TH AND 18TH JAMES I.

Twenty-six Rolls.

First. Twenty Burgesses admitted. One at £3. 6s. 8d., one at 50s., one at 46s. 8d., two at 40s., one at 20s., seven at 3s. 4d., and seven gratis.

Second. Measurers and Weighers at Hythe sworn, 12.

Third. Dredgers Licenced on 26.

Fourth. Deeds enrolled on 2 to 11, 13 to 19. Thirty-three Apprentices' Indentures.

On 23, the place for the punishment of "The Tumbrell," previously referred to, was stated to be round the Market on the Saturday.

18TH AND 19TH JAMES I.

Fifty-three Rolls, lost 20 and 33, torn out.

First. Twenty-five new Burgesses. One at £4, two at £3 6s. 8d., two at £3, fourteen at 3s. 4d. (apprentice qualification), and six free.

Second. Assize of Bread on 5, November, Wheat 28s.

Third. Dredgers' Licenced on 50.

Fourth. Deeds enrolled on 4, 5, 7, 10, 14, 16, 17, 19, 24 to 28. Thirty-four Apprentices' Indentures.

On 29, two letters certifying the bearers to be servants of Lord Stafford, engaged on his business, and warning all Mayors, Bailiffs, &c., against arresting, restraining, or imprisoning them; which would tend to infringe the ancient liberties and privileges of a peer of the realm during the time of this Parliament, May, 1621.

19TH AND 20TH JAMES I.

Fifty-five Rolls.

First. Nine new Burgesses admitted. One at 40s., three at 3s. 4d., the rest gratis.

Second. Assize of Bread.

Roll 25. April, Wheat 46s. a quarter.

Roll 47. May, Wheat 50s. a quarter.

Third. Dredgers Licenced on 54.

Fourth. Deeds enrolled on 3, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 14, 15, 17, 19, 21 to 28, 32, 33, and 34. Recoveries 7, 15. Thirty-four Apprentices' Indentures, all copied verbatim, as usual.

20TH AND 21ST JAMES I.

Thirty-eight Rolls.

First. Nineteen new Burgesses. One at £3, one at 20s., six at 3s. 4d., and eleven free.

Second. Assize of Bread.

Roll 4. October, Wheat 50s. a quarter.

Roll 30. August, Wheat 43s. 6d. „

Roll 33. September, Wheat 40s., Rye 30s.

Third. Dredgers Licenced on 37.

Fourth. Deeds enrolled on 3 to 6, 10, 12, 14, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 25, 28, 30 to 32 inclusive. Recoveries on 15, 22, and 26. Twenty-one Apprentices' Indentures.

21ST AND 22ND JAMES I.

Twenty-one Rolls.

First. Twelve new Burgesses. One at 44s., five at 3s. 4d., the rest free.

Second. Dredgers Licenced on 20.

Third. Deeds enrolled 1 to 8, 11 to 14. Recovery on 2. Thirty Apprentices' Indentures.

On 6, a safe conduct to one Tillet, of Colchester, a Prisoner for debt in the Tower of London, for eight months, to collect his debts.

22ND AND 23RD JAMES I.

Twenty-nine Rolls.

First. Ten Burgesses admitted. One at £6. 13s. 4d., one at £3. 6s. 8d., one at £3, two at 26s. 8d., three at 3s. 4d., the rest free.

Second. Licences to Oyster Dredgers on 28.

Third. Deeds enrolled on 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 19 to 25. Recoveries 4 and 17. Seventeen Apprentices' Indentures.

Fourth. Assize of Bread on 20, July, Wheat 38s. a quarter.

1ST AND 2ND CHARLES I.

Twenty-one Rolls.

First. Twenty-three Burgesses admitted. Two at 40s., seven at 3s. 4d., and fourteen free.

Second. Assize of Bread.

Roll 2. October, Wheat 51s., Rye 48s. a quarter.

Roll 17. September, Wheat 38s., Rye 26s. a quarter.

Third. Dredgers Licenced on 21.

Fourth. Deeds enrolled on 2 to 16 inclusive. Fifteen Apprentices' Indentures. Still every one copied word for word, notwithstanding the precise similarity of their contents.



REPERTORY

OF THE

Records & Evidence

OF THE

BOROUGH OF COLCHESTER,

1865.

BY HENRY HARROD, F.S.A.

Colchester:

PRINTED AT THE "ESSEX AND WEST SUFFOLK GAZETTE" OFFICE, HIGH STREET.

IN the year 1865 the Records of this Borough were placed and arranged in the New Record Room at the Castle, and this Repertory made, in the Mayoralty of JOHN FITZSIMMONS BISHOP, Esquire, under the direction of a Record Committee, appointed by the Town Council, namely, Alderman EDWARD WILLIAMS, M.D., and Councillor JOHN BAWTREE HARVEY, Esquires, by HENRY HARROD, F.S.A., of 4, Victoria Street, Westminster.

SAYERS TURNER, TOWN CLERK.

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The Records of the Borough of Colchester.

I. THE CHARTERS.

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| 1 | <p>EDWARD III. Inspecting and confirming Charters of Edward II., Henry III., and Richard I. Dated at Westminster 8th July, in the 36th year of his reign 1364</p> <p>Capital Letter "E." never finished. Portion of the Seal of Green Wax remains.</p> | In a
Tin Box
marked
"Charters." |
| 2 | <p>RICHARD II. Inspecting and confirming the preceding Charters. Dated at Westminster the 27th January, in the first year of his reign 1377-8</p> <p>Capital Letter "R." gilt, but illumination poor. Seal gone.</p> | Ditto. |
| 3 | <p>HENRY IV. Inspecting and confirming previous Charters. Dated at Westminster in the first year of his reign 1399-1400</p> <p>Letter "H." left blank for the Illuminator. Portion of a Green Wax Seal remaining.</p> | Ditto. |
| 4 | <p>HENRY V. Inspecting and confirming previous Charters, and more clearly defining the right of the Town as to cognizance of Pleas. Dated at Westminster the 7th July, in the first year of his reign 1413</p> <p>Capital Letter H. beautifully illuminated. St. Helena stands in the centre, a label about her inscribed on the left side of the figure "Sca Elena fuit in Colestia," and on the right side "Elena Mat: Constantini fuit & S cam Crucem invenit." A small figure of Constantine, above to the right, places his right hand on the horizontal beam of a great Cross which stands upright by the left side of St. Helena. Seal destroyed.</p> | Ditto. |

2	THE CHARTERS— <i>continued.</i>	
5	<p>HENRY VII. Inspecting and confirming a Charter of the first Edward IV., and those of Edward III. and II., and Richard I. Dated at Westminster the 28th November, in the third year of his reign 1488</p> <p>Seal in fragments in a Canvass Bag.</p>	In the Charter Box.
6	<p>HENRY VIII. "Inspeximus." Dated Westminster the 11th of May, in the second year of his reign..... 1511</p> <p>Seal gone.</p>	Ditto.
7	<p>ELIZABETH. "Inspeximus." Dated Westminster 20th February, in the first year of her reign 1559</p> <p>The Initial Letter has an outline portrait of the Queen—a most lugubrious figure. Seal gone.</p>	Ditto.
8	<p>CHARLES I. "Inspeximus." Dated Westminster, the 18th June, in the 5th year of his reign 1630</p> <p>Seal gone.</p>	Ditto.
9	<p>CHARLES I. New Charter, substituting a Mayor for the Bailiffs, and altogether reforming the Constitution of the Corporation. Dated at Can'bury the 9th July, in the 11th year of his reign 1635</p> <p>Seal gone. Initial Letter has a portrait of Charles, shaded with lead pencil—a very poor performance.</p>	Ditto.
10	<p>CHARLES II. Reducing the number of the Council fixed in a previous Charter of 1663 (now lost), and prescribing Tests and Oaths. Dated at Westminster the 8th November, in his 36th year (his "second Charter")..... 1684</p> <p>Engraved Portrait on the first of five Skins of Parchment. Seal gone.</p>	Ditto.
11	<p>JAMES II. New Charter, still further reducing the number of Aldermen and Council, but abolishing the tests and qualifications of the previous Charter. Dated 15th September, in the 4th year of his reign..... 1688</p> <p>Engraved Portrait in first Letter. Four Skins of Parchment. Seal gone.</p>	Ditto.

	THE CHARTERS— <i>continued.</i>	3
12	WILLIAM AND MARY. A new Charter, reciting the first Charter of Charles II. (1663), and confirming it, adding a Tuesday Market, and a Fair in July called the "New Fair." Dated at Westminster 27th July, in the 5th year of their reign, 1693	In the Charter Box.
13	GEORGE III. New Charter, almost verbatim the same as the last one. Dated Westminster, the 9th September, in the 3rd year of his reign 1763	Ditto.
14	GEORGE III. New Charter of Incorporation. Dated at Westminster in the 58th year of his reign, 20th February ... 1818 Transcripts of all the early Charters, made by the indefatigable Mr. Benjamin Strutt, will be found in a thin volume in the Record Room, labelled "Cartæ Colcestriæ."	Ditto.
15	Appointment of Justices of the Peace for the Borough. 1st December, 1837.	Ditto.
	<i>As to the Grammar School.</i>	
16	ELIZABETH. Foundation Charter. Dated 6th July, in the 26th year of her reign 1584	Ditto.

4		
	<h2 style="text-align: center;">II. DEEDS AND WRITINGS.</h2> <hr style="width: 20%; margin: 20px auto;"/>	
1	Grant by King Edward VI. (in consideration of £284. 5s.) to the Corporation of Messuages, Lands, and Tenements, late belonging to Haynes' and Barwicks' Chuntries, in St. Peter's, Colchester, 14th November, 4th year, 1551.	In the Charter Box.
2	<p>May 27th. 16th Charles I.</p> <p>John Sayers, of Aldham, Esquire, to James Abrathat, of Colchester, Merchant, of Chesterwell Wood, in Milend.</p> <p>A note endorsed on the Deed states—"This Deed shows the Boundary of the Town Jurisdiction, as the Northern limits by the Old Perambulations are the Black Brook, in Chesterwell, and this Wood being Chesterwell Wood, shows that the Well is near."</p>	Ditto.
3	April 18th, 1684. The Mayor, &c., to William Sadler. Mortgage of the "Three Crowns," in St. Mary-in-the-Wall, for £200, at £10 per cent.	Ditto.
4	December 15th, 1692. The Mayor, &c., to Mr. Robert Parradine. Mortgage of the Dutch Bay Hall, in St. Peter's, to secure sums advanced by him to the Town in his Office of Chamberlain.	Ditto.
5	September 8th, 1712. Robert Clark, of Stratford, Suffolk, Gentleman, assigning to John Cumberland, of Norwich, Grocer, a term of 1,000 years in the Severalls Estate, Brinckelely Farm, and Tubbeswick, granted by the Corporation of Colchester on the 1st February, 1706, to the said Robert Clerk for securing £1,060 and interest.	Ditto.
6	A Bundle of Papers, Letters, &c., relating to the Severalls Estate, and to the Ejectments there in 1750-6, with a Book dated December, 1756, containing Acknowledgments of all the Milend Tenants who had encroached on the Waste.	Ditto.

	DEEDS AND WRITINGS— <i>continued.</i>	5
7	Fishery. 17th August, 1700. The Mayor, &c., to John Potter, Woollen Draper, and Ralph Creffield, Woollen Draper. Demise of Fishery in Colne Water from North Bridge to West Ness for 21 years, from the Annunciation last past, at a yearly rent of one shilling, with full power to grant leases or licences to others to dredge there.	In the Charter Box.
8	Same date, same parties. Covenant by the Corporation to hold Courts of Admiralty for the protection of Lessees when required by them, and to produce Charters, &c.	Ditto.
9	Exemplification of the Verdict in Potter and Creffield, <i>versus</i> Audley and others, as to the Fishery. Verdict for Plaintiffs. 1703.	Ditto.
10	August 2nd, 1718. The Mayor, &c., to Sir Ralph Creffield, Knight, and John Potter, Gentleman. Demise of the Fishery (as before) for fifteen years, from the Annunciation in 1721, at one shilling rent.	Ditto.
11	Counterpart executed by the Lessees.	Ditto.
12	Same date, same parties. Covenant as to Admiralty Courts and production of Charters, as before.	Ditto.
13	November 16th, 1718. Covenant and Agreement between the Lessees and the Dredgers. The Lessees to grant Licences, at ten shillings a dredge, to the Dredgers of eight parishes and the town of Colchester only. The Dredgers to comply with certain regulations as to size of boat, number of men, time of taking out licences, &c.	Ditto.
14	March 4th, 1730. John Colt, Citizen and Draper, of London, to the Mayor, &c., of Colchester. Assignment of Potter's moiety of the above Lease by Colt, the Assignee in Bankruptcy of his Estate, to the said Mayor, &c., in consideration of £10. 10s.	Ditto.
15	March 26th, 1731. Sir Ralph Creffield to the Mayor, &c. Assignment of the other moiety for the like sum.	Ditto.

6	DEEDS AND WRITINGS— <i>continued.</i>	
16	May 10th, 1683 (Copy). Lease from Mayor, &c., to William Garland, West Mersey, Mariner, and Anthony Sewell, East Mersey, Mariner, of the Fishery for three years, at £50 per annum.	In the Charter Box.
17	Quietus for Fee Farm Rent, 1684.	Ditto.
18	Proceedings of County Justices in relation to the Fishery from 1758 to 1764.	Ditto.
19	Perambulation of the Liberties in 1801.	Ditto.
20	Briefs and Papers relating to Actions and Suits by and against the Corporation, particularly with one Merry.	Ditto.
21	A similar Bundle of Briefs and Papers relating to Actions and Suits.	Ditto.
22	A third Parcel of similar Papers.	Ditto.
23	Title Deeds and Writings of Premises in the Parish of St. Peter, Colchester, purchased by the Corporation of Colchester of Sayers Turner, Esq., now forming part of the site of the New Cattle Market.	Ditto.
24	The like of Premises purchased by the Corporation of Parkhouse and wife, also forming part of the site of the New Cattle Market.	Ditto.
25	The like of Premises purchased of Miss Clementina Fox, also forming part of the site of the New Cattle Market.	Ditto.
26	Deed of Covenant dated 26th November, 1863, by Mr. Thomas Daniell, as to certain rights of way, &c., between Premises belonging to him called the New Market Tavern and the Cattle Market.	Ditto.
27	May 7th, 1855. Dedication by Charles Gray Round, Esq., of the Castle Chapel, as a Museum for the Town.	Ditto.
28	Grant by Charles Gray Round, Esq., of a Room in Colchester Castle for the purpose of a Muniment Room for the use of the Corporation.	Ditto.

III. COURT ROLLS.

The Rolls of the Law Hundred and Foreign Courts contained originally all the proceedings of the Courts of Record, but by the close of Charles the Second's reign, Court Books were exclusively used, and the Rolls only used for recording Deeds and Recoveries.

The Rolls commence at Michaelmas in every year, and continue until the following Michaelmas.

The page of the Calendar is given, where a note of all matters on the Roll not of a strictly routine character will be found stated.

Regnal Year.	Reign.	Year of our Lord.		Page.	Deposited Shelf.
4 and 5	EDWARD II.	1310 and 1311	Calendar page	7	A.a.
5 and 6	"	1311 and 1312	"	8	"
3 and 4	EDWARD III.	1329 and 1330	"	9	"
7 and 8	"	1333 and 1334	"	10	"
10 and 11	"	1336 and 1337	"	11	"
14 and 15	"	1340 and 1341	"	12	"
19 and 20	"	1345 and 1346	"	13	"
24 and 25	"	1350 and 1351	"	14	"
25 and 26	"	1351 and 1352	"	"	"
27 and 28	"	1353 and 1354	"	15	"
30 and 31	"	1356 and 1357	"	"	"
33 and 34	"	1359 and 1360	"	16	"
34 and 35	"	1360 and 1361	"	17	"
38 and 39	"	1364 and 1365	"	18	"
40 and 41	"	1366 and 1367	"	19	"
46 and 47	"	1372 and 1373	"	"	"
48 and 49	"	1374 and 1375	"	20	"
50 and 1	RICHARD II.	1376 and 1377	"	"	"
2 and 3	"	1378 and 1379	"	21	"
3 and 4	"	1379 and 1380	"	23	"
5 and 6	"	1381 and 1382	"	24	"
6 and 7	"	1382 and 1383	"	25	"
7 and 8	"	1383 and 1384	"	26	"
8 and 9	"	1384 and 1385	"	"	"
9 and 10	"	1385 and 1386	"	"	"

COURT ROLLS—*continued.*

Regnal Year.	Reign.	Year of our Lord.	Calendar page	Page.	Deposited Shelf.
11 and 12	RICHARD II.	1387 and 1388		28	A.a.
15 and 16	"	1391 and 1392	"	"	"
16 and 17	"	1392 and 1393	"	29	"
19 and 20	"	1395 and 1396	"	30	"
22 and 23	"	1398 and 1399	"	"	"
2	HENRY IV.	1400 and 1401	"	31	"
5	"	1403 and 1404	"	32	A.b.
6	"	1404 and 1405	"	"	"
7	"	1405 and 1406	"	33	"
8	"	1406 and 1407	"	34	"
11	"	1409 and 1410	"	"	"
13	"	1411 and 1412	"	35	"
1 and 2	HENRY V.	1413 and 1414	"	"	"
4 and 5	"	1416 and 1417	"	36	"
6 and 7	"	1418 and 1419	"	37	"
7 and 8	"	1419 and 1420	"	"	"
1 and 2	HENRY VI.	1423 and 1424	"	38	"
2 and 3	"	1424 and 1425	"	"	"
3 and 4	"	1425 and 1426	"	39	"
4 and 5	"	1426 and 1427	"	"	"
5 and 6	"	1427 and 1428	"	40	"
6 and 7	"	1428 and 1429	"	"	"
7 and 8	"	1429 and 1430	"	41	"
8 and 9	"	1430 and 1431	"	"	"
10 and 11	"	1432 and 1433	"	42	"
11 and 12	"	1433 and 1434	"	"	"
13 and 14	"	1435 and 1436	"	43	"
14 and 15	"	1436 and 1437	"	"	"
15 and 16	"	1437 and 1438	"	"	"
16 and 17	"	1438 and 1439	"	44	"
17 and 18	"	1439 and 1440	"	"	"
18 and 19	"	1440 and 1441	"	45	"
21 and 22	"	1442 and 1443	"	"	"
22 and 23	"	1443 and 1444	"	46	B.a.
23 and 24	"	1444 and 1445	"	"	"
25 and 26	"	1447 and 1448	"	47	"
26 and 27	"	1448 and 1449	"	"	"
27 and 28	"	1449 and 1450	"	48	"
30 and 31	"	1452 and 1453	"	"	"
31 and 32	"	1453 and 1454	"	49	"
34 and 35	"	1456 and 1457	"	"	"
35 and 36	"	1457 and 1458	"	50	"
36 and 37	"	1458 and 1459	"	51	"
37 and 38	"	1459 and 1460	"	"	"

COURT ROLLS—*continued.*

9

Regnal Year.	Reign.	Year of our Lord.		Page.	Deposited Shelf.
38 and 39	HENRY VI.	1460 and 1461	Calendar page	52	B.a.
39 and 1	EDWARD IV.	1461 and 1462	"	53	"
3 and 4	"	1463 and 1464	"	"	"
6 and 7	"	1466 and 1467	"	54	"
10 and 11	"	1470 and 1471	"	55	"
13 and 14	"	1473 and 1474	"	"	"
16 and 17	"	1476 and 1477	"	56	"
17 and 18	"	1477 and 1478	"	57	"
20 and 21	"	1480 and 1481	"	"	"
21 and 22	"	1481 and 1482	"	58	"
1 and 2	RICHARD III.	1483 and 1484	"	59	"
2 and 3	"	1484 and 1485	"	"	"

Not a single Roll of Henry VII. remains. Some particulars of the contents may be found in the "Oath Book" and in the "Paper Books," for some years, in a case.

1 and 2	HENRY VIII.	1509 and 1510	Calendar page	60	"
2 and 3	"	1510 and 1511	"	61	"
3 and 4	"	1511 and 1512	"	"	"
4 and 5	"	1512 and 1513	"	"	"
6 and 7	"	1514 and 1515	"	"	"
7 and 8	"	1515 and 1516	"	62	B.b.
8 and 9	"	1516 and 1517	"	"	"
9 and 10	"	1517 and 1518	"	"	"
10 and 11	"	1518 and 1519	"	63	"
11 and 12	"	1519 and 1520	"	"	"
12 and 13	"	1520 and 1521	"	"	"
13 and 14	"	1521 and 1522	"	64	"
14 and 15	"	1522 and 1523	"	"	"
16 and 17	"	1524 and 1525	"	"	"
17 and 18	"	1525 and 1526	"	"	"
18 and 19	"	1526 and 1527	"	"	"
19 and 20	"	1527 and 1528	"	65	"
21 and 22	"	1529 and 1530	"	"	"
22 and 23	"	1530 and 1531	"	66	"
23 and 24	"	1531 and 1532	"	"	"
24 and 25	"	1532 and 1533	"	"	"
25 and 26	"	1533 and 1534	"	"	"
26 and 27	"	1534 and 1535	"	67	"
27 and 28	"	1535 and 1536	"	"	"
28 and 29	"	1536 and 1537	"	"	"

Regnal Year.	Reign.	Year of our Lord.		Page.	Deposited Shelf.
29 and 30	HENRY VIII.	1537 and 1538	Calendar page	67	B.b.
30 and 31	"	1538 and 1539	"	"	"
31 and 32	"	1539 and 1540	"	68	"
32 and 33	"	1540 and 1541	"	"	"
33 and 34	"	1541 and 1542	"	"	"
34 and 35	"	1542 and 1543	"	"	"
35 and 36	"	1543 and 1544	"	69	"
36 and 37	"	1544 and 1545	"	"	"
37 and 38	"	1545 and 1546	"	"	"
1 and 2	EDWARD VI.	1547 and 1548	"	"	"
3 and 4	"	1549 and 1550	"	70	"
4 and 5	"	1550 and 1551	"	"	"
5 and 6	"	1551 and 1552	"	"	"
1 & 2	MARY & 1 PHILIP & MARY	1553 & 1554	"	"	"
1 and 2	PHILIP & MARY	1554 and 1555	"	"	C.a.
2 and 3	"	1555 and 1556	"	71	"
4 and 5	"	1557 and 1558	"	"	"
5 and 1	ELIZABETH	1558 and 1559	"	"	"
1 and 2	"	1559 and 1560	"	72	"
2 and 3	"	1560 and 1561	"	"	"
4 and 5	"	1562 and 1563	"	"	"
5 and 6	"	1563 and 1564	"	"	"
6 and 7	"	1564 and 1565	"	"	"
7 and 8	"	1565 and 1566	"	73	"
8 and 9	"	1566 and 1567	"	"	"
9 and 10	"	1567 and 1568	"	"	"
10 and 11	"	1568 and 1569	"	"	"
11 and 12	"	1569 and 1570	"	"	"
12 and 13	"	1570 and 1571	"	"	"
13 and 14	"	1571 and 1572	"	74	"
15 and 16	"	1573 and 1574	"	"	"
16 and 17	"	1574 and 1575	"	"	"
17 and 18	"	1575 and 1576	"	"	"
19 and 20	"	1577 and 1578	"	75	"
20 and 21	"	1578 and 1579	"	"	"
21 and 22	"	1579 and 1580	"	"	"
22 and 23	"	1580 and 1581	"	"	"
23 and 24	"	1581 and 1582	"	76	"
24 and 25	"	1582 and 1583	"	"	"
25 and 26	"	1583 and 1584	"	"	"
26 and 27	"	1584 and 1585	"	"	"
27 and 28	"	1585 and 1586	"	"	"
28 and 29	"	1586 and 1587	"	77	"
29 and 30	"	1587 and 1588	"	"	"

COURT ROLLS—*continued.*

11

Regnal Year.	Reign.	Year of our Lord.		Page.	Deposited Shelf.
30 and 31	ELIZABETH.	1588 and 1589	Calendar page	78	C.a.
31 and 32	"	1589 and 1590	"	"	"
32 and 33	"	1590 and 1591	"	"	"
33 and 34	"	1591 and 1592	"	79	"
34 and 35	"	1592 and 1593	"	"	"
35 and 36	"	1593 and 1594	"	"	"
36 and 37	"	1594 and 1595	"	80	"
37 and 38	"	1595 and 1596	"	"	C.b.
38 and 39	"	1596 and 1597	"	"	"
39 and 40	"	1597 and 1598	"	81	"
40 and 41	"	1598 and 1599	"	"	"
41 and 42	"	1599 and 1600	"	"	"
42 and 43	"	1600 and 1601	"	82	"
43 and 44	"	1601 and 1602	"	"	"
44 and 1	JAMES I.	1602 and 1603	"	"	"
2 and 3	"	1604 and 1605	"	"	"
3 and 4	"	1605 and 1606	"	83	"
4 and 5	"	1606 and 1607	"	"	"
5 and 6	"	1607 and 1608	"	"	"
6 and 7	"	1608 and 1609	"	"	"
7 and 8	"	1609 and 1610	"	84	"
9 and 10	"	1611 and 1612	"	"	"
11 and 12	"	1613 and 1614	"	"	"
12 and 13	"	1614 and 1615	"	"	"
13 and 14	"	1615 and 1616	"	85	"
14 and 15	"	1616 and 1617	"	"	"
15 and 16	"	1617 and 1618	"	86	"
16 and 17	"	1618 and 1619	"	"	"
17 and 18	"	1619 and 1620	"	"	"
18 and 19	"	1620 and 1621	"	"	"
19 and 20	"	1621 and 1622	"	87	"
20 and 21	"	1622 and 1623	"	"	"
21 and 22	"	1623 and 1624	"	"	"
22 and 1	CHARLES I.	1624 and 1625	"	88	"
1 and 2	"	1625 and 1626	"	"	"

Every other Roll of Charles I., of the Commonwealth, and of the first eight years of Charles II., are lost. When they again commence they are very irregular—sometimes only the Enrolments, sometimes a few Pleadings, occasionally the original Paper Pleadings (hundreds of small scraps of paper), are squeezed up in a single Roll of Parchment and made to do duty as a "Court Roll."

Regnal Year.	Reign.	Year of our Lord.		Rolls.	Deposited Shelf.
20 and 21	CHARLES II.	1668 and 1669	Paper Pleas		C.b.
22 and 23	"	1670 and 1671	Deeds, &c.....	21	"
23 and 24	"	1671 and 1672	"	27	"
24 and 25	"	1672 and 1673	"	19	"
26 and 27	"	1674 and 1675	Foreign Court Pleas.....	12	"
27 and 28	"	1675 and 1676	Deeds, &c.....	12	D.a.
29 and 30	"	1677 and 1678	Pleas, &c.	13	"
30 and 31	"	1678 and 1679	Pleas and Deeds	16	"
31 and 32	"	1679 and 1680	Deeds, &c.....	13	"
32 and 33	"	1680 and 1681	Pleas, &c.	17	"
33 and 34	"	1681 and 1682	"	15	"
34 and 35	"	1682 and 1683	12 Rolls of Deeds, written in a large hand, 23 Rolls of Pleas, and 1 of Corporation	36	"
35 and 36	"	1683 and 1684	Deeds and Pleas	28	"
36 and 1	JAMES II.	1684 and 1685	"	25	"
1 and 2	"	1685 and 1686	Paper Pleas and Fine Roll ..		
2 and 3	"	1686 and 1687	Deeds and Fine Roll.....	11	"
3 and 4	"	1687 and 1688	1 of Deeds, 4 Foreign Court and Paper Pleas	5	"
4 and 1	WILLIAM & MARY	1688 and 1689	Deeds enrolled	8	"
1 and 2	"	1689 and 1690	"	13	"
2 and 3	"	1690 and 1691	Deeds enrolled and Pleas....	14	"
3 and 4	"	1691 and 1692	Deeds enrolled	10	"
4 and 5	"	1692 and 1693	Deeds enrolled and Appren- tice Indentures	10	"
5 and 6	"	1693 and 1694	Deeds enrolled	4	"
6 and 7	WILLIAM III.	1694 and 1695	"	11	"
7 and 8	"	1695 and 1696	"	7	"
8 and 9	"	1696 and 1697	"	5	"
9 and 10	"	1697 and 1698	"	7	"
11 and 12	"	1699 and 1700	Deeds enrolled and Appren- tice Indentures	13	"
13 and 1	ANNE	1701 and 1702	Deeds enrolled	12	"
1 and 2	"	1702 and 1703	"	11	"
2 and 3	"	1703 and 1704	"	15	"
3 and 4	"	1704 and 1705	"	4	"
4 and 5	"	1705 and 1706	"	12	"
5 and 6	"	1706 and 1707	"	9	"
6 and 7	"	1707 and 1708	"	11	"
7 and 8	"	1708 and 1709	"	20	"
8 and 9	"	1709 and 1710	"	9	"
9 and 10	"	1710 and 1711	Deeds enrolled and Pleas....	20	"
10 and 11	"	1711 and 1712	Deeds enrolled	13	"

COURT ROLLS—continued.						13
	Regnal Year.	Reign.	Year of our Lord.		Rolls.	Deposited Shelf.
	11 and 12	ANNE	1712 and 1713	Deeds enrolled	14	D.a.
	12 and 1	GEORGE I.	1713 and 1714	"	16	"
	1 and 2	"	1714 and 1715	"	2	"
	2 and 3	"	1715 and 1716	"	11	D.b.
	3 and 4	"	1716 and 1717	"	23	"
	4 and 5	"	1717 and 1718	"	20	"
	5 and 6	"	1718 and 1719	"	20	"
	6 and 7	"	1719 and 1720	"	12	"
	7 and 8	"	1720 and 1721	Deeds enrolled and Pleas....	22	"
	8 and 9	"	1721 and 1722	Deeds enrolled	12	"
	9 and 10	"	1722 and 1723	"	16	"
	12 and 13	"	1725 and 1726	"	15	"
	13 and 1	GEORGE II.	1726 and 1727	"	4	"
	10 GEORGE I. to 1 GEORGE II.		1723 and 1727	"	13	"
	2 to 8	GEORGE II.	1728 and 1734	"	3	"
	8 and 9	"	1734 and 1735	"	10	"
	15 and 16	"	1740 and 1741	"	12	"
1	Deeds enrolled		1764 to 1787			"
1a	"		1787 to 1797			"
2	Recoveries enrolled		1765 to 1777			"
3	"		1783 to 1824			"
4	"		1801 to 1809			"
5	Action Entries on Stamps ..		1716 to 1722	Law Hundred & Foreign Court		"
6	"		1722 to 1728	"		"
7	Action Entries and Recog- nizance.....		1717 to 1725	"		"
8	Foreign Court Rolls		1760 to 1818			D.d.
9	Fragments of Leet Presentments, mostly undated.					D.b.
10	Affidavits, &c.....		1750 to 1800	Foreign Court		D.d.
11	Pleas in 1662 in a Parchment Roll.					"
12	Curious Collection of Precedents, temp. Henry VIII.					"
13	Ejectment Proceedings in 1718. Thomas Troublesome v. John Makeplaine, instead of Doe and Roe.					"

14		
	<p style="text-align: center;">IV. SESSIONS ROLLS.</p> <hr/>	
1-2	<p>Sessions and Gaol Delivery Rolls of the following years of Elizabeth (in two parcels) :—</p> <p>18 and 19 ELIZABETH. 19 and 20 " 25 and 26 " Two women convicted of Witchcraft, imprisoned, and to stand in Pillory. 26 and 27 " 27 and 28 " 30 and 31 " 35 and 36 " 37 and 38 " 40 and 41 " Three men hanged. 42 and 43 " Two men hanged at the Trinity Sessions, and two women and one man in October.</p>	<p>Shelf. A.c.</p>
3-4	<p>Sessions and Gaol Delivery Rolls of the following years of James I. (in two parcels) :—</p> <p>3 and 4 JAMES I. 4 and 5 " 5 and 6 " 7 and 8 " 8 and 9 " 10 and 11 " 11 and 12 " A woman hanged for Burglary. 12 and 13 " Two women hanged for Murder. 14 and 15 " 16 and 17 " 17 and 18 " Two men hanged, one for stealing Rabbits from an Outhouse, the other for Burglary. 18 and 19 " 19 and 20 " 20 and 21 " 22 and 23 "</p>	<p>A.c.</p>

	SESSIONS ROLLS— <i>continued.</i>	15
5	<p>Sessions and Gaol Delivery Rolls of Charles I. (in one parcel).</p> <p>7 and 8 CHARLES I. 9 and 10 „ 10 and 11 „ 11 and 12 „ 14 and 15 „ One man hanged for Horse-stealing, another “ stood mute,” and was pressed to death. 16 and 17 „ 17 and 18 „ 21 and 22 „ 22 and 23 „ 25 and 26 „</p>	<p>Shelf. A.c.</p>
6	<p>Sessions and Gaol Delivery Rolls for 1650 to 1690.</p> <p>1650-1. 1652. 1654. 1655. 1659. Three persons hanged—two men and one woman. 1671-2. 1687. Jury Presentments only. 1690.</p>	B.c.
7-8	<p>Sessions and Gaol Delivery Rolls from 1691 to 1700.</p> <p>1691. 1692. 1693. 1694. 1698. 1699. 1700.</p>	B.c.
9	<p>Sessions and Gaol Delivery Rolls, &c., 1701 to 1705.</p> <p>1701. One Roll. 1702. Three Rolls. 1703. Two Rolls. 1704. Three Rolls. 1705. Four Rolls.</p>	B.c.

16	SESSIONS ROLLS— <i>continued.</i>	
10-11	<p>Sessions and Gaol Delivery Rolls, 1706 to 1710.</p> <p>1706. Three Rolls. 1707. Three Rolls. 1708. Two Rolls. 1709. Four Rolls. 1710. Four Rolls.</p>	<p>Shelf. { B.c. A.c.</p>
12-13	<p>Sessions and Gaol Delivery, 1711 to 1715.</p> <p>1711. Four Rolls. 1712. Four Rolls. 1713. Two Rolls. 1714. One Roll. 1715. Four Rolls.</p>	<p>A.c.</p>
14-15	<p>Sessions and Gaol Delivery, 1716 to 1720.</p> <p>1716. Three Rolls. 1717. Four Rolls. 1718. Four Rolls. 1719. Four Rolls. 1720. Three Rolls.</p>	<p>A.c.</p>
16-17	<p>Sessions and Gaol Delivery, 1721 to 1725.</p> <p>1721. Four Rolls. 1722. Four Rolls. 1723. Four Rolls. 1724. Four Rolls. 1725. Four Rolls.</p>	<p>B.c.</p>
18-19	<p>Sessions and Gaol Delivery, 1726 to 1730.</p> <p>1726. Three Rolls. 1727. Three Rolls. 1728. Three Rolls. 1729. Four Rolls. 1730. Three Rolls.</p>	<p>{ B.c. A.c.</p>
20-21	<p>Sessions and Gaol Delivery, 1731 to 1735.</p> <p>1731. Four Rolls. 1732. Four Rolls.</p>	<p>A.c.</p>

	SESSIONS ROLLS— <i>continued.</i>			17
				Shelf.
	1733. Four Rolls.			
	1734. Four Rolls.			
	1735. Four Rolls.			
22-23	Sessions and Gaol Delivery, 1736 to 1740.			A.c.
	1736. Four Rolls.			
	1737. Four Rolls.			
	1738. Four Rolls.			
	1739. Four Rolls.			
	1740. Four Rolls.			
24	Sessions and Gaol Delivery Rolls and Papers from 1764 to 1774.			B.c.
25	Ditto	ditto	„ 1775 to 1785.	„
26	Ditto	ditto	„ 1787 to 1793.	A.d.
	Ditto	ditto	„ 1794 to 1802.	
27	Sessions and Oath Rolls		„ 1764 to 1810.	„
28	Sessions and Gaol Delivery Rolls		„ 1804 to 1814.	„
29	Sessions Papers, Calendars, Certificates, Indentures, Depositions, &c.		„ 1738 to 1777.	„
30	Ditto	ditto	„ 1783 to 1791.	„
31	Ditto	ditto	„ 1791 to 1798.	B.d.
32	Ditto	ditto	„ 1798 to 1808.	„
33	Ditto	ditto	„ 1810 to 1813.	„
34	Ditto	ditto	„ 1813 to 1815.	„
35	Ditto	ditto	„ 1816 to 1817.	A.d.
36	Ditto	ditto	„ 1818 to 1820.	„
37	Ditto	ditto	„ 1837 to 1839.	„
38	Sessions Papers, Commitments, &c.,		„ 1825 to 1828.	B.d.
39	Ditto	ditto	„ 1829 to 1832.	„
40	Ditto	ditto	„ 1833 to 1836.	„
41	Ditto	ditto	„ 1840 to 1842.	A.d.
42	Ditto	ditto	„ 1843 to 1845.	„
43	Ditto	ditto	„ 1846 to 1849.	„

V. CORPORATION ACCOUNTS.

- a.* Chamberlains' Accounts.
- b.* Chamberlains' Bills and Vouchers.
- c.* Serjeants' Petitions and Extracts.
- d.* Subsidy and Composition Rolls.
- e.* Treasurers' Accounts.
- f.* Mortgagees' Accounts.
- g.* Treasurers' Bills and Vouchers.
- h.* Borough Rates Accounts.
- i.* St. Helen's Guild Account.

a.

Chamberlains' Accounts are arranged in a case so labelled. Many are in a hopeless state of decay. Those capable of identification are as follow :—

42 and 43	ELIZABETH	1599 to 1600	Hugh Lovell, Chamberlain.
45 and 1	JAMES I.	1602 to 1603	George Gowdge, Chamberlain.
9 and 10	„	1611 to 1612	Samuel Cropelye, Chamberlain.
17 and 18	„	1619 to 1620	Thomas Reynolds, Chamberlain.
22 and 1	CHARLES I.	1624 to 1625	Daniel Cole, Chamberlain.
1 and 2	„	1625 to 1626	William Johnson, Chamberlain.
6 and 7	„	1630 to 1631	Edward Thurston, Chamberlain.
7 and 8	„	1631 to 1632	A fragment only.
14 and 15	„	1638 to 1639	A part only of Chamberlain's Account.
15 and 16	„	1639 to 1640	William Hammond.
17 and 18	„	1641 to 1642	Nicholas Bacon.
22 and 23	„	1646 to 1647	Francis Burrowes.
24	„	1648 to 1649	John Radham.
		1654 to 1655	John Luffkin.
		1659 to 1660	John Rayner.
13 and 14	CHARLES II.	1661 to 1662	Samuel Sheerely.
16 and 17	„	1664 to 1665	John Merridale.
19 and 20	„	1667 to 1668	William Hall.

Shelf.

K.

CORPORATION ACCOUNTS— <i>continued.</i>					19
					Shelf.
	20 and 21	CHARLES II.	1668 to 1669	William Cater.	K.
	30 and 31	"	1678 to 1679	John Stileman.	
	32 and 33	"	1680 to 1681	John Potter.	
	33 and 34	"	1681 to 1682	Henry Lamb.	
	35 and 36	"	1683 to 1684		
	4 JAMES II. & 1 WILLIAM & MARY		1688 to 1689	Ezekiel Sherman.	
	8 and 9	WILLIAM III.	1696 to 1697	William Francis.	
	10 and 11	"	1698 to 1699	Jacob Johnson.	
	4 and 5	GEORGE I.	1717 to 1718	George Gray.	
	6 and 7	"	1719 to 1720	George Gray.	
	11 and 12	"	1724 to 1725	George Gray.	
	5 and 6	GEORGE III.	1765 to 1772	John Fiske.	
a.2.	Chamberlains' Accounts for 1834 marked B, and 1835 marked A.				C.d.
b.1.	Chamberlains' Bills and Vouchers for the years 1579, 1580, 1584, 1602, 1607, 1609 (most of them in a bad condition).				C.c.
b.2.	Chamberlains' Bills and Vouchers for the years 1610, 1617, 1619, 1622, 1624, 1627, 1629.				"
b.3.	Chamberlains' Bills and Vouchers for the years 1637, 1642, 1645, 1663, 1698, 1704, 1706.				"
b.4.	Chamberlains' Bills and Vouchers for the years 1708, 1719, 1720, 1728, 1729, 1730, 1733, 1734, 1735, 1736, 1739.				"
b.5.	Chamberlains' Bills and Vouchers for the years 1777 to 1781, and from 1798 to 1807.				"
b.6.	Chamberlains' Bills and Vouchers from 1807 to 1819.				"
b.7.	Chamberlains' Bills and Vouchers from 1826 to 1834.				"
c.1.	<p>Serjeants' Petitions, being Extracts of the Amerciaments from the Leet and Court Rolls for collection by the Serjeants, with Memorandum of receipt by the Chamberlain at the end of each.</p> <p>Some of these Petitions are evidently the work of the Serjeants themselves, but others are the work of more experienced scribes,</p>				C.d.

20	CORPORATION ACCOUNTS— <i>continued.</i>	
	<p>and appear to be called Petitions from their praying to be allowed the amount in their Accounts.</p> <p>1 and 2 HENRY V. 4 and 5 „ 11 and 12 HENRY VI. 15 and 16 „ 18 and 19 „ 21 and 22 HENRY VII. This is of value, as almost the only Leet Inquest of this reign. 2 and 3 HENRY VIII. 3 and 4 „ 4 and 5 „ 5 and 6 „</p>	Shelf.
c.2.	<p>Serjeants' Extracts. The same things as the Petitions ; if anything, more loosely and unintelligibly arranged ; in nearly every case only a part of the year.</p> <p>Serjeants' Extracts.</p> <p>25 and 26 HENRY VIII. 27 and 28 „ 31 and 32 „ 37 and 38 „ 38 and 39 „ 10 and 11 ELIZABETH. 19 and 20 „ 21 and 22 „ 30 and 31 „ A fragment. 8 and 9 JAMES I. 9 and 10 „ 10 and 11 „ 14 and 15 „ 17 and 18 „ 21 and 22 „ 30 and 31 CHARLES II.</p>	C.d.
d.	<p>Subsidy and Composition Rolls.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Subsidy Roll for 1600. 2. Shipmoney Assessments for 1679. 3. Assessments for Subsidy after the Siege, showing the 	C.d.

	CORPORATION ACCOUNTS— <i>continued.</i>	21
	Houses burnt, the owners and occupiers of which are relieved. 1648.	Shelf
	4. Foreigners' Compositions for Liberty of Trade from 1637 to 1667.	
e.	Borough Treasurers' Accounts. Printed statements from 1843 to 1850.	C.d.
f.	Mortgagees' Accounts. Account of William Bernard, Esq., 1766 to 1767. " " 1767 to 1768. " " 1768 to 1769. " " 1769 to 1770. " " 1770 to 1771. Account of James Bernard, Esq., 1773 to 1774. " " 1774 to 1775. " " 1775 to 1776.	C.d.
g.	1. Treasurers' Bills and Vouchers 1839 and 1840.	C.c.
"	2. Ditto ditto 1841 to 1843.	"
"	3. Ditto ditto 1844 and 1845.	"
"	4. Ditto ditto 1845 and 1846.	"
h.	Borough Rate Account, 1838 and 1839.	C.d.
i.	Account of the Guild of St. Helen's, by the Masters, in 20th Henry VI.	C.d.

VI. BURGESS ROLLS.

Burgess Roll on Stamps, 1716 to 1724. After the latter date the Register of Admissions was kept in Books. (See Division V., Books.)

Shelf.

D.b.

VII. OATHS AND DECLARATIONS.

1. Oaths and Declarations against the Solemn League and Covenant on Election of Aldermen in 1683 and 1687.

D.b.

2. Qualification of Members under the New Charter in 1763.

D.b.

Books.

I. ASSEMBLY AND COUNCIL MINUTE BOOKS.

		Shelf.
1	Assembly Book from 1576 to 1599. The Minutes for three years prior to this time will be found in the latter part of the first Monday Court Book. See the contents of that volume.	D.c.
2	Assembly Book from 1600 to 1620.	"
3	Ditto " 1620 to 1646.	"
4	Ditto " 1646 to 1666.	"
5	Ditto " 1667 to 1692.	"
6	Ditto " 1693 to 1712.	"
7	Ditto " 1712 to 1741.	"
8	Ditto " 1763 to 1797.	"
9	Ditto " 1798 to 1827.	"
10	Ditto " 1827 to 1835.	"
1	Council Minute Book from 1835 to 1839.	
2	Ditto " 1839 to 1845.	
3	Ditto " 1845 to 1852.	
4	Ditto " 1852 to 1858.	
5	Ditto " 1858 to 1863.	
6	Ditto " 1863 to 1866.	

II. COURT BOOKS.

		Shelf.
1	<p>Law Hundred, or Monday Court Book of 6th, 9th, 13th, 14th, and 15th Henry VII.</p> <p>Only part of a volume, and in a bad condition, but of value, as the Court Rolls of Henry VII. are all lost. These fragments are now placed in a case labelled "Monday Court, Henry VII."</p>	A.
1a.	<p>Monday Court Book from 1539 to 1547.</p> <p>This also contains the Minutes of the Thursday Court for the same time.</p>	"
2	<p>Monday Court Book from 1565 to 1571.</p> <p>This, likewise, contains the Thursday Court Minutes, which, after this time, are kept separately.</p>	"
3	<p>Monday Court Book from 1571 to 1575.</p> <p>This volume is not paged, but contains—</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Monday Court Minutes. 2. Assembly Minutes, 1573 to 1576. 3. A List of Refugees in 1573. 4. Contributions for Relief of the Poor. 5. A Town Rental (about 1576). 	"
4	Monday Court Book from 1575 to 1586.	"
5	Ditto " 1586 to 1593.	"
6	Ditto " 1593 to 1599.	"
7	Ditto " 1599 to 1606.	"
8	Ditto " 1606 to 1614.	"
9	Ditto " 1614 to 1620.	Lost.
10	Ditto " 1620 to 1624.	"
11	Ditto " 1624 to 1629.	"
12	Ditto " 1629 to 1634.	"
13	Ditto " 1634 to 1638.	"
14	Ditto " 1638 to 1642.	"

	COURT BOOKS— <i>continued.</i>	25
		Shelf.
15	Monday Court Book from 1642 to 1646.	B.
16	Ditto „ 1646 to 1650.	„
17	Ditto „ 1650 to 1653.	„
18	Ditto „ 1653 to 1658.	„
19	Ditto „ 1658 to 1661.	„
20	Ditto „ 1662 to 1666.	„
21	Ditto „ 1666 to 1671.	„
22	Ditto „ 1672 to 1674.	„
23	Ditto „ 1675 to 1678.	„
24	Ditto „ 1678 to 1684.	„
25	Ditto „ 1684 to 1689.	„
26	Ditto „ 1688 to 1691.	„
27	Ditto „ 1699 to 1706.	„
28	Ditto „ 1706 to 1714.	F.
29	Ditto „ 1714 to 1730.	„
30	Ditto „ 1730 to 1767.	„
31	Ditto „ 1767 to 1785.	„
32	Ditto „ 1785 to 1810.	„
1	Thursday, or Foreign Court Book, from 1571 to 1576.	C.
	<p>To 1571 the Minutes of this Court were kept in the same Book as those of the Monday Court.</p> <p>This volume is unpagged, but contains, about the middle of it, the following transcripts and other entries :—</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A Commission for taking Orders about Pyrates and Pyrases. 14th October, 19th Elizabeth. 2. Names of the Commissioners. 3. Letter from the Privy Council on Piracy. 29th September, 1577. 4. Instructions to Commissioners annexed thereto. 5. Orders by Commissioners thereon. 6. Letters to the Justices about Highwaymen and Beggars, &c. November, 1577. 7. Commission to suppress Piracy. July, 20th Elizabeth. 8. Instructions to Commissioners. 9. Orders of Justices of Assize at Chelmsford about Fishery. 13th May, 19th Elizabeth. 	

26	COURT BOOKS— <i>continued.</i>	
	<p>10. A Commission for Musters. 18th April, 22nd Elizabeth.</p> <p>11. A general direction for Commissioners for the Musters in the Town of Colchester.</p> <p>12. Instructions, "by command," given by the Privy Council to Commissioners for Musters in Essex. (20 pages.)</p> <p>13. Letter from the Privy Council on Musters. Westminster, 18th March (no date of year).</p> <p>14. Letter to the Bailiffs of Colchester by the Commissioners, with a list of those charged with the provision of Lances and Light Horse.</p> <p>15. 1580. The humble sute of the Bailiffs and Aldermen to be relieved therefrom.</p> <p>16. Letter from Commissioners in support of such Petition. February, 1580.</p> <p>17. Warning to Light Horse to Muster at Chelmsford on Friday, the 20th September. (This must be 1582.)</p> <p>18. Instructions and Orders by the Privy Council as to the Light Horse. 1st March, 20th Elizabeth.</p> <p>19. Butchers' Recognizances in £20 against killing meat in Lent, and other prohibited times. 23rd Elizabeth.</p> <p>20. Letter from the Privy Council urging the more strict observance of Fasts.</p> <p>21. Orders thereupon. (3 pages of them.)</p> <p>22. A Permit by the Bailiffs to a sick person to eat flesh in Lent.</p> <p>23. Six other Permits.</p> <p>24. Letter from Privy Council on same subject. 1586.</p> <p>25. 1576. Jury for the Scrutiny of the Market and Port, and Letters from Privy Council.</p> <p>26. Order of Justices thereon.</p> <p>27. The names of the Badgers, Lodgers, Carriers, Buyers, and Sellers of Corn and Grain.</p> <p>28. Jury named in each year from the 20th to the 28th Elizabeth to enquire concerning transport of Corn and Grain, and in the Market of Colchester.</p>	Shelf.

	COURT BOOKS— <i>continued.</i>	27
		Shelf.
2	Thursday Court Book from 1583 to 1593.	C.
3	Ditto „ 1593 to 1599.	„
4	Ditto „ 1601 to 1605.	„
5	Ditto „ 1605 to 1611.	„
6	Ditto „ 1614 to 1621.	„
7	Ditto „ 1621 to 1624.	D.
8	Ditto „ 1625 to 1629.	„
9	Ditto „ 1629 to 1634.	„
10	Ditto „ 1634 to 1638.	„
11	Ditto „ 1638 to 1641.	„
12	Ditto „ 1641 to 1643.	„
13	Ditto „ 1643 to 1646.	„
14	Ditto „ 1646 to 1650.	„
15	Ditto „ 1650 to 1652.	„
16	Ditto „ 1652 to 1655.	„
17	Ditto „ 1655 to 1658.	„
18	Ditto „ 1658 to 1661.	E.
19	Ditto „ 1661 to 1665.	„
20	Ditto „ 1666 to 1669.	„
21	Ditto „ 1669 to 1671.	„
22	Ditto „ 1671 to 1673.	„
23	Ditto „ 1673 to 1677.	„
24	Ditto „ 1677 to 1680.	„
25	Ditto „ 1680 to 1687.	„
26	Ditto „ 1687 to 1701.	„
27	Ditto „ 1690 to 1692.	„
28	Ditto „ 1701 to 1708.	„
29	Ditto „ 1708 to 1714.	„
30	Ditto „ 1714 to 1727.	„
31	Ditto „ 1727 to 1739.	„
32	Ditto „ 1739 to 1779.	„
33	Ditto „ 1779 to 1798.	F.
34	Ditto „ 1798 to 1827.	„
35	Ditto „ 1828 to 1844.	„
	Action Stamp Book from 1764 to 1822.	D.
	A previous Book, from 1727 to 1764, has been also used as a Burgesses' Admission Book. See "V., Burgess Books."	

III. SESSIONS BOOKS.

1	Examinations and Recognizances. 15th to 21st Edward IV. A few loose sheets only of this volume remain : these are placed in a brown paper parcel.	Shelf. C.
2	Examinations and Recognizances. 10th 15th Henry VIII. A couple of quires only, now put into a brown paper parcel.	"
3	Examinations and Recognizances from 1561 to 1570.	"
4	Examinations and Recognizances from 1562 to 1572.	"

This volume is known as the

"Liber Ordinationum,"

its contents are as follow :—

		Folio
Examinations, &c., 1562 to 1572	... ..	1 to 81
An order for the Brewing of Beer	... ..	83
Orders determined on the 16th of April, 1562 (as to attendance at Church and Commoning !)	... ..	84
Assize of the Bakers, 1562	... ..	85
Dredgers called Summer Dredgers, 1562	... ..	86
Winter Dredgers	... ..	86
Orders for the Aldermen's Gowns. 4th Elizabeth	... ..	86
Orders for Beer Brewing. 19th October, 4th Elizabeth	... ..	87
New Ordinances for Town. 4th Elizabeth	... ..	87 to 91
Chandlers appointed. 5th Elizabeth	... ..	91
Assize of Bread. October, 4th Elizabeth	... ..	92
Bottlemaker sworn. 4th Elizabeth	... ..	92
Order for the Dutchmen banished for God's Word	... ..	92
Collection for Relief of Poor. 4th Elizabeth	... ..	92
Burgess for Parliament, 1562	... ..	92
Assize of Bread. January, 5th Elizabeth	... ..	93
Assize of Bread. 2nd March, 5th Elizabeth	... ..	93
Order for applying the 500 seams brought in from Danske. April, 1563	... ..	92
		93

SESSIONS BOOKS— <i>continued.</i>					29
				Folio	Shelf.
Assize of Bread.	August, 1563	...	...	94	
Assize of Bread.	August and October, 1563	...	...	94	
Bakers, 1563	...	...	...	94	
Order about Election and Law Day Dinners in January,	1563	...	...	95	
Dredgers' Recognizances.	6th Elizabeth	...	...	95	
Dredgers' Recognizances.	7th Elizabeth	...	...	96	
Assembly.	24th July, 6th Elizabeth	...	...	97	
Assize of Bread.	August, 1564	...	...	98	
Beer Ordinances.	September, 1564	...	...	98	
The Brewers	...	...	...	99	
The Common Ground called Golden Field...			...	99	
Order for delivery of Tallow to the Chandlers by the	Butchers.	March, 1564	...	100	
Butchers' Ordinances.	April, 1565	...	...	100 to 103	
Assize of Bread.	21st June, 1565	...	...	104	
Assize of Bread.	10th September, 1565	...	...	104	
Resolution of Council to enclose and sell the Half Year	Lands called the June Commons, and to lay out				
	the money for a Hospital for poor Children.	7th			
	Elizabeth	...	...	104	
Oath ordered for Free Burgesses	...	...	...	105	
Order for Gowns and Tippetts, when to be worn, and	for opening the Fair by the Corporation.	7th			
	Elizabeth	...	...	106	
Assize of Bread.	September, 1566	...	...	107	
Assize of Bread.	November, 1567	...	...	107	
Extract Law Hundred Court, 4th Edward I., fine for	throwing Ballast into River	...	...	108	
Ordinances for the Fishery.	February, 9th Elizabeth...			109	
No fat Cattle to be sent away from the Town, to be	killed or the meat sold to Foreign Butchers by				
	Burgesses, on pain of losing their Freedom.				
	September, 1568	...	...	110	
Order for letting Kingswodeheath to Thomas Heneage,	Esquire, for threescore years.	December, 1570		112	
Assembly.	January, 1572	...	...	113	

30	SESSIONS BOOKS— <i>continued.</i>			
			Folio	Shelf.
	Vagabonds delivered to Constables	...	127	
	Notes "concerning Simon Smith and Mr. Pullan."			
	November, 1564	...	128	
	Appraisers of Leather. 4th Elizabeth	...	129	
	Order for continuance of Common Preacher. February, 1566	...	130	
5	Examinations and Recognizances, 1574 to 1577.			C.
6	Ditto	ditto	1577 to 1581.	"
7	Ditto	ditto	1581 to 1588.	"
8	Ditto	ditto	1588 to 1600.	"
<p>This Volume is commenced afresh from the other end, where the following entries will be found:—</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Letters from the Lords of the Council for the drying of Fish, October, 1581. 2. A Proclamation for the price of Wines, 1581. 3. A Letter for the taking of Wines for the Queen's Majesty, 1581. 4. A Proclamation to denounce Jesuit Traitours, 1582. 5. A Proclamation for the keeping of the Term at Hertford Castle; and for the adjournment of same from Michaelmas to the feast of All Souls, 8th October, 24th Elizabeth. 6. The several rates and taxations for wages made and put forth by the Justices of the Peace for the Town of Colchester, 1583. 				
9	Examinations and Recognizances, 1600 to 1619.			C.
10	Ditto	ditto	1619 to 1645.	"
11	Ditto	ditto	1646 to 1687.	"
1	Sessions Book from 1599 to 1603.			I.
2	Ditto	"	1630 to 1663.	"
3	Ditto	"	1693 to 1695.	"
4	Ditto	"	1695 to 1699.	"
5	Ditto	"	1700 to 1713.	"
6	Ditto	"	1715 to 1723.	"
7	Ditto	"	1723 to 1734.	"
8	Ditto	"	1734 to 1768.	"

	SESSIONS BOOKS— <i>continued.</i>	31
		Shelf.
9	Sessions Book from 1768 to 1777.	I.
10	Ditto „ 1777 to 1787.	„
11	Ditto „ 1787 to 1798.	„
12	Ditto „ 1798 to 1812.	„
1	Sessions Minute Book from 1734 to 1737.	C.
2	Ditto „ 1737 to 1741.	„
3	Ditto Missing.	„
4	Ditto „ 1764 to 1768.	„
5	Ditto „ 1768 to 1773.	„
6	Ditto „ 1773 to 1777.	„
7	Ditto „ 1777 to 1781.	„
8	Ditto „ 1781 to 1787.	„
9	Ditto „ 1787 to 1794.	„
10	Ditto „ 1794 to 1815.	„
11	Ditto „ 1815 to 1826.	„
1	Alehouse Keepers' Recognizances, 1647 to 1672.	C.
2	Ditto 1765 to 1819.	„

IV. CORPORATION ACCOUNTS.

			Shelf.
1	Town Rental	1829.	I.
2	Ditto	1836-1837.	"
3	Severalls Estate Account	1837 to 1847.	"
4	Corporation General Account,	1837 to 1847.	"
5	Chamberlain's Accounts from	1818 to 1827.	"
6	Ditto (a Duplicate) "	" "	"
7	Ditto "	1827 to 1833.	"
8	Treasurer's Accounts from	1833 to 1836.	"
9	Ditto "	1836 to 1837.	"
10	Ditto "	1838 to 1843.	"
10*	Ditto (Duplicate) "	" "	"
11	Ditto "	1844 to 1847.	"
12	Ditto "	1847.	"
13	Borough Rate Book "	1839 to 1847.	"
14	Order Book "	1861 to 1864.	"

V. BURGESS BOOKS.

1	Index of Free Burgesses and Scrutiny,	1705.	D.c.
2	Admission of Freemen on Stamps,	1727.	"
	Action Entries on Stamps at the other end of the book—see Court Books.		
3	Burgess Roll,	Vol. I., 1841 to 1849.	"
4	Ditto	Vol. II., 1849 to 1857.	"
5	Ditto	Vol. III., 1857 to 1862.	"

		33
	<p style="text-align: center;">VI. OATHS, ORDINANCES, AND DECLARATION BOOKS.</p> <hr style="width: 20%; margin: 20px auto;"/> <p style="text-align: center;">I. <i>Liber Juramentorum</i>, or "Oath Book,"</p> <p>Referred to in the Court Rolls as the "Red Parchment Book."</p> <p>Oaths, Constitutions, and Ordinances, and Extracts from a variety of documents affecting the Borough Liberties, were, from early in Richard the Second's time, entered into it. Upwards of two hundred pages of the body of the Book are occupied with Notes of Burgesses' admissions, Testaments, and Deeds from the Court Rolls, many of which (particularly those of Henry VII.) are not now in existence. Its contents are—</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="margin-right: 10px;"> <p><small>The folios are numbered several ways, and begin afresh three or four times over in the course of the Book.</small></p> </div> <div> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Oaths of the Law Hundred Courts. 2. Articles of Enquiry of Leet Inquest. 3. Bounds of Liberty 6th Edward I., Receipts of Fifteenth and Tenth <i>tempore</i> Henry V., and Elizabeth from the Exchequer Records. 4. Kalendar of Contents <i>temp.</i> Henry VIII. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. to D. Customs of the Port. E (dorse). Jingling Rhymes on the Law Terms. Those who are not pledgeable and those who are. F. Explanations of words—Sok, Sak, &c. G. Divers Allowances of the King's Ferm. Dorse. Charter of Henry IV. to St. Helen's Guild. </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; align-items: flex-start; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="margin-right: 10px;"> <p><small>A new paging.</small></p> </div> <div> <p>} fo. 1. Kings of England to death of Edward III.</p> <p>Dorse. Since the Conquest continued in later hands to Charles I.</p> </div> </div> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Of Colchester and Coele, and St. Helen, daughter of Coel. 4. Proclamation in Colne Water. 5th Richard II. <p>Letters Patent concerning the Admiral of Essex, Writ and Statutes. 15 Richard II., and 2 Henry IV.</p>	<p>Shelf. D.c.</p>

34	OATHS, ORDINANCES, &c., BOOKS— <i>continued.</i>	
	<p>5. New Constitutions of the Town after 18 Richard II., printed by Mr. Benjamin Strutt in pamphlet.</p> <p>7. The election day. (Also printed by Strutt, p. 26.)</p> <p>8. Oaths of Bailiffs, Clerk, Farmer, Receiver, Serjeants, Burgesses, and Councillors.</p> <p>9 dorse. Constitutions of the Town. Henry IV. (Also printed by Strutt, p. 30.)</p> <p>10 dorse. Oaths of Bailiffs, Aldermen, Auditors, Chamberlain, Burgesses, Justices of the Peace, Constables (later than the previous ones).</p> <p>$\frac{1}{226}$ } 12. Burgesses admitted. Testaments, Deeds enrolled, and Grants from 1 Edward III. to 5th Elizabeth. Paged 1 to 226.</p> <p>227. Extracts from the Memoranda Rolls of the Exchequer, 27th and 28th Elizabeth, as to the Burgh Liberties.</p> <p>lxiij (63). New Ordinances for the Town. 25 Henry VI.</p> <p>lxxv (75). Writ for the Liberty of the Town (Toll unjustly taken in London of Colchester Burgesses). 7th Henry IV.</p> <p>lxxvi (76). Composition between Corporation and Abbot and Convent of St. John. 12th Edward III.</p> <p>lxxvij (77). Charter of Henry III. de-afforesting Essex. Statutes, 12th Richard II., Cambridge, and 17th.</p> <p>iiij^{xx}ij (82). Writ to the Coroner of London for Liberties of Colchester.</p> <p>iiij^{xx}ij. (83). Charter of John of Colchester, 15th Edward II., of Lands and Rents pertaining to St. Helen's Chapel, in Maydynburgh, in parish of St. Nicholas.</p> <p>iiij^{xx}iiij (84). Presentation by Bailiffs of a Chaplain on the death of William Bishop, Chaplain to the New Chantry of St. Helen. 7th Henry IV.</p> <p>Another letter of Presentation by Bailiffs.</p> <p>Deed of gift of rents for repair of East Bridge. 8th Edward III.</p> <p>iiij^{xx}vj. Rental of Town. 11th Richard II. Northward 86, Southward 89, Eastward 93, Headward 97.</p> <p>xcix (99). Allowance of the Town Liberties from Rolls of King's Courts <i>tempore</i> Richard II.</p>	<p>Shelf. D.c.</p>

	OATHS, ORDINANCES, &c., BOOKS— <i>continued.</i>	35
	<p>cij (102). Pleas in Injuries to Town Liberties. Remedies thereon.</p> <p>ciiij (104). Writs of Dower. 11th Richard II. Articles of the Law Hundred (in Latin, of which those at the beginning of the Book are a translation into the “<i>Materna lingua.</i>”)</p> <p>cv (105). Tolls of the Millers. Allowance of Liberties of Burgesses.</p> <p><small>Not Paged.</small> } Rental of North Ward, <i>tempore</i> Elizabeth. Ordinance proved 15th November, 1642, for Colchester. Burgesses admitted 1728. 1698 to 1731. Oaths of Allegiance, Supremacy, and Abjuration (modern).</p> <p><small>Fresh paging.</small> } 27 to 33. Town Clerks, Coroners, Mayors, Justices, Headmans, Electors, Chamberlains, Serjeants, and Free Burgesses’ Oaths.</p> <p>34. Admissions from 1729.</p> <p>39. Oaths of Assistants and Common Council (modern).</p> <p>40. Oaths of Headmen of Serjeants’ Elections, and Recorder.</p> <p>42. Admissions, 1691.</p> <p>43. Oaths of Leather Sealer, Treasurer of the Wards (modern).</p> <p>45. Admissions, 1721. 50. Admissions, 1695. 52. Admissions, 1692. 54. Admissions, 1700.</p> <p><small>Another fresh paging.</small> } 29. Oath of Bailiff and Assistant Dutch Bay Hall, and of Warden of Weavers.</p> <p>30. Oath of Porters at New Hythe.</p> <p>32. Oath of Wardens of the Bakers and Butchers. Oath of Landlokers (Surveyors). Oath of Searchers and Sealers of Leather.</p> <p>34. Oath of Tryers of Leather, by Act 1st James I. Oath of Headmen of Election of Justices of Peace. Oath of Headmen of Election of Serjeants. Oath of Measurer of Bays and High Sealers of Bay Hall.</p> <p>38. Oath of Hall Keeper and Book Keeper of Rawhall and Whitehall, and his Assistant.</p> <p>38. Oath of Printers in the Loombe.</p> <p>39. Oath of Ordinary and Chief Measurer of Bays, and Prover of Bays.</p>	<p><small>Shelf.</small> D.c.</p>

36	OATHS, ORDINANCES, &c , BOOKS— <i>continued.</i>	
	<p>40. Oath of Bailiffs and Assistant. Oath of Searchers of Dyers. Oath of Hall Keeper's Assistant for Stamping. 41. Oath of the Rawhalls and their supplies. Oath of the Whitehalls and their supplies. 42. Oath of the Measurers of Coals and other things at the New Hythe. 43. Orders concerning the Plague. 1665. 44. Oath for the Searchers of the Plague and of the Bearers. "10th August, 1665, two bearers appointed at 10s. a week each, and 2s. for every body buried." 45. Perambulation of 1563. 46. Oath of the Serjeants. 47. Oath of the Town Clerk. 48 to 51. Acquittances for £8 granted out of the Fee Farm to Lord Viscount Colchester. 52. Oaths of Supremacy and Allegiance. 53 and 54. Oath of Coroner and Mayor. 55. Oaths of Recorder and Justice of Peace. 56. Oaths of Aldermen, Chamberlain, Attornies. 58. Oaths of Assistants and Constables. 59. Oaths of Free Burgesses. These last are all quite recent.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">II. The Red Paper Book,</p> <p>A Collection of Oaths, Ordinances, Copies, and Extracts of Charters and other documents relating to the Borough.</p> <p>It was in so hopeless a state of decay that it was judged better at once to remove it from its oaken board covers and place the leaves separately in a guarded book, shut in a case labelled with the name of the volume. Much of it is destroyed, but what now remains would have perished in a few years had it been left as it was found.</p> <p>"Here begins the Kalendar of all things contained in this Book."</p> <p>1. Of the New Constitutions of the Town (lost.) 3. Of the Manner of Election.</p>	<p>Shelf. D.c.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">H.</p>

	OATHS, ORDINANCES, &c., BOOKS— <i>continued.</i>	37
	<p>Of the New Barge made [for the King].</p> <p>Of the Oath of Bailiffs and Clerk.</p> <p>4. Of the Oath of Farmer, Receivers, and Serjeants.</p> <p>Of the Wool Market in Hall Cellar.</p> <p>5. Of the Tenth granted to the King.</p> <p>Of the places demised to John Glovere and to John Seburgh.</p> <p>Of the Fairs of St. John Baptist and Magdalen.</p> <p>6. Of a certain place of Geoffrey Dawe.</p> <p>Of the making a Gate and Sollar opposite Hall.</p> <p>7. Of the Perambulation of the Liberties.</p> <p>8. Of the Colehawe [yard] of Geoffrey Dawe.</p> <p>Of the acquisition of Saltmeadow.</p> <p>[Proof by Duel, omitted in Index].</p> <p>9. That Bailiffs ought not to sell ale or wine.</p> <p>That Serjeants do not elect Beadles.</p> <p>The Bailiffs' Oath.</p> <p>10. Four Serjeants ordained.</p> <p>Perambulation of the Town.</p> <p>11. Compositions between the Abbey and Town.</p> <p>170. Proclamation made in Colne Water.</p> <p>223. Proclamation for sale of Wine.</p> <p>238. Composition between town and Sir John Sutton.</p> <p>Writ for Forest.</p> <p>Writ for Admiral, by James Le</p> <p>Writ for Justices of Peace.</p> <p>239. Another for Admiral.</p> <p>Tenths of the Town.</p> <p>478. Moiety of Tenth granted to the King.</p> <p>New Purchases of the Abbey.</p> <p>New Purchases of the Prior of St. Botolph's.</p> <p>Agreement between the Town and Abbey.</p> <p>Commission for a Tenth.</p> <p>The Town Bakers</p> <p>A certain claim of John Aylwyn, of Milend.</p> <p>Cession of Richard atte Felde, Clerk.</p> <p>Visitation of the Chapel of St. Helen.</p> <p>Demise to Robert Mystelegh.</p>	<p>Shelf.</p> <p>H.</p>

38	OATHS, ORDINANCES, &c., BOOKS— <i>continued.</i>	
	<p>Letters directed to the Bishop of London.</p> <p>Transcripts of Letters Patent of Bishop of Ely and John, Duke of Lancaster, for Custom not paid.</p> <p>Release of Rent to be paid into Exchequer.</p> <p>Oath of the Wardens of the Butchers.</p> <p>Writ directed to Justices of Peace for allowance of liberties of the Town.</p> <p>Oath of Felons abjuring the Realm.</p> <p>Names of the Felons who were condemned to be hung at the Common Hall by the Bailiffs and Coroners. [The entry itself is lost, but the note in the Index is rather full.]</p> <p>363. Penalty ordained on those of the twenty-four who do not come at the hour assigned, 6d.</p> <p>52. Pleas between the Abbot of St. Osith and Elias, son of John, and Warin, son of William, &c. 30th Edward III., 9th Roll.</p> <p>53. Arrest of Geoffrey Story, Abbot of St. John, on certain Articles of Treason against the King.</p> <p>53. A certain controversy between the Town and the Abbey of St. John in ancient times.</p> <p>54. Appeal therein.</p> <p>53. A certain presentment at the Law Hundred Court of the Abbot of St. John for a certain gutter, in the time of Arnulph de Mounteney and John de Tendring. 13th Edward II.</p> <p>54. Of the death of a Woman in Grenstede Park.</p> <p>Of the death of a Man in the Abbey Sacristy.</p> <p>Of the death of the Rector of Grenstede, who was found in the Abbey Close opposite the door of the Esquire's Stables.</p> <p>55. Indictment against the Felons who robbed the Refectory and Dormitory of St. John's.</p> <p>Presentment of Law Hundred Court of the same Abbey "for divers usurpations," &c.</p> <p>47. Writ from the King to the Bailiffs for certain Injuries of the Abbey.</p> <p>58. Pleas in the Exchequer between the Town and the Abbey about the Office of Coroner, &c.</p> <p>Inquisition taken on King's Writ before the Bailiffs for divers usurpations by Abbey.</p>	<p>Shelf.</p> <p>D.c.</p>

	OATHS, ORDINANCES, &c., BOOKS— <i>continued.</i>			39
	<p>This "Index" does not contain the Duel before mentioned, nor the following and several other entries of importance :—</p> <p>82. Execution by burning of William Chyveling, Tailor, for Heresy. 7th Henry VI.</p> <p>83. Bill of Abbot of St. John's against Bailiffs and their answer.</p> <p>Burgesses in Parliament record Acts of that at Westminster, 1st Henry VII., and "Thes be the Gentlemen that be a Teynt."</p>			Shelf.
3	Declarations under 5th and 6th William IV., c. 76, 1835.			I.
4	Ditto	ditto	1838 to 1850.	"
5	Ditto	ditto	1838 to 1851.	"
6	Ditto	ditto	1850 to 1863.	"

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	<p style="text-align: center;">VII. MISCELLANEOUS.</p> <hr/>	
1	Register of Apprenticeship Indentures, 1767 to 1830.	Shelf. D.b.
2	Contributions to the Poor. 24th Elizabeth.	"
3	Original Poll Books, in one Parcel, for the following Elections : 9 for 1820, 4 for 1830, 8 for 1831, 7 for 1832, 8 for 1837.	H.a.
4	Cartæ Colcestriæ. Transcripts of the Charters beautifully made by Benjamin Strutt.	
5	<p>"Colchester MSS." A Collection of Notes of important subjects, the first being on the Constitutions relating to the Half-year Lands.</p> <p>Page 1. Case about the Commons.</p> <p>Page 4. Elections of 1706 and 1713, with full report of the Contest before the Parliamentary Committees, &c.</p> <hr/>	"

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Calendar of the Court Rolls of Borough of Eilchester

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(a) Lists of Bailiffs of Eilchester

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(b) Lists of Mayors of Eilchester

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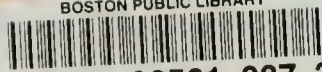
Records of the Borough of Eilchester

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Books containing minutes & other matters

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